



77.301  
39k  
.2  
241158

M. L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

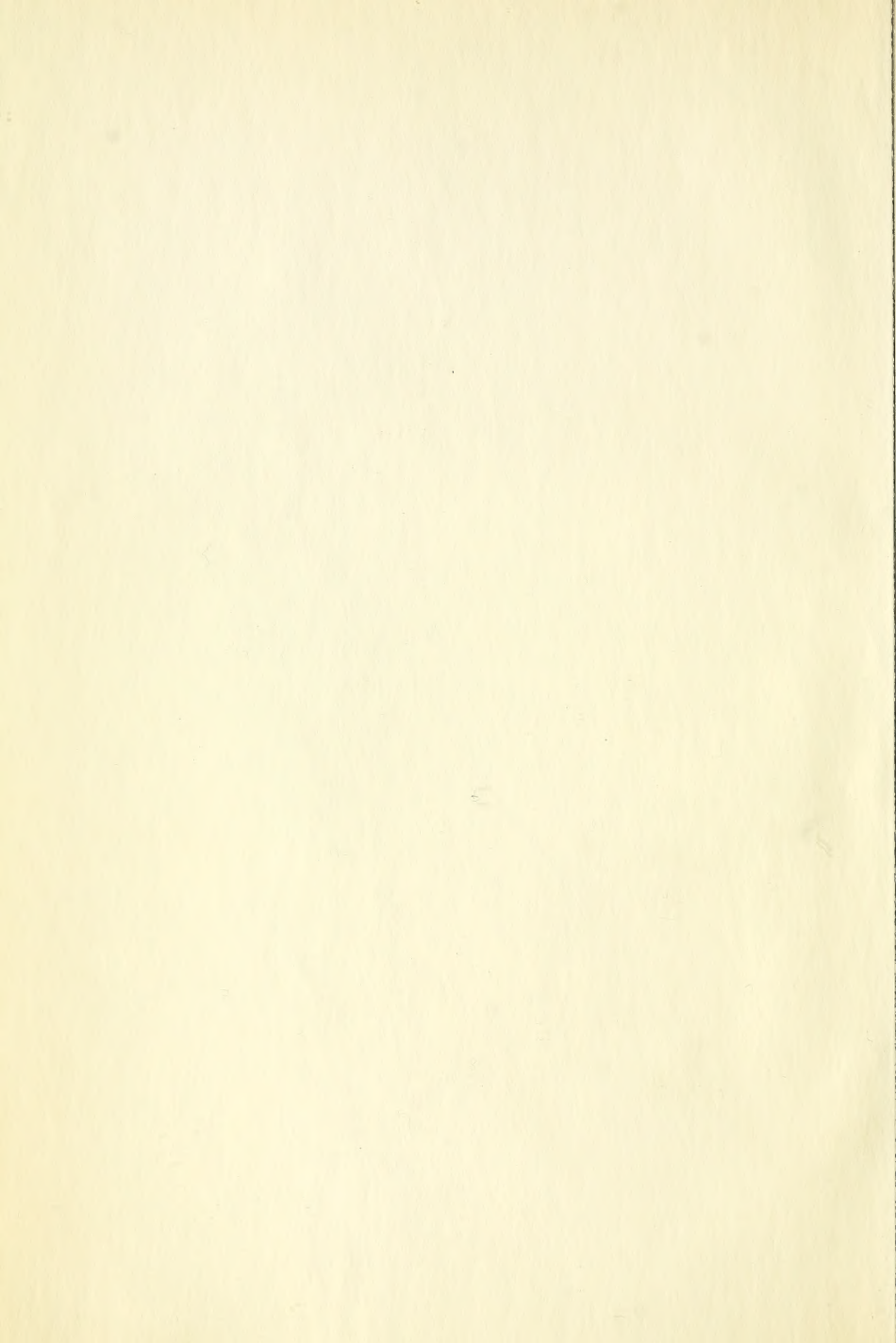
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 00877 9792







HISTORY  
OF  
HENRY COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS

---

By HENRY L. KINER

---

Also Biographical Sketches of Many Representative Citizens  
of the County

---

ILLUSTRATED

---

VOLUME II

---

CHICAGO:  
THE PIONEER PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1910



1241158

Midland - 827,500 (2 vol.)



*Geo E Waite*

# BIOGRAPHICAL

---

## JUDGE GEORGE ELLIOT WAITE.

If one were asked to find the characterization of Judge Waite amid the lines that poets have penned, the following might be fittingly chosen:

"He leaves a patriot's name to after times  
Linked with a thousand virtues—and no crimes."

Such was the life of Judge Waite, who in the long years of his connection with Henry county stood as one of its most honored citizens, seeking ever the good of the state before personal aggrandizement and at all times standing fearlessly in defense of what he believed to be for the best interests of the public at large. He was born in 1827 in Stratton, Windham county, Vermont, and comes of a family in the paternal line of English origin. The name was originally spelled Wayte, while later the orthography was changed by different branches of the family to Waite and Wait. The American ancestor was Thomas Wayte, who emigrated to Massachusetts upon the restoration of King Charles II in 1660. He was a member of the long parliament and was identified with Hampden, Pym, Sir Harry Vane, Sir Thomas Fairfax, Cromwell, Ireton and others with the struggle for freedom of conscience and constitutional government. He did not waver in his opposition to the king and no doubt saw Cromwell at the head of the famous Ironsides regiment and may have been present at Marston Moore and Naseby. He sat on the trial of Charles I and witnessed the matchless prosecution by John Bradshaw, and signed the death warrant of the king. Through successive generations his descendants have been prominent in public affairs and loyal in citizenship, standing courageously in defense of their honest convictions and at all times advocating progress and improvement.

John Wayte, the grandfather of Judge Waite, was a soldier of the revolutionary war and fought in the battles of Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill. After the cessation of hostilities he removed to Stratton, Vermont, where he resided until his death. He had five sons, Amasa, Luther, Daniel, Tyler and Alpheus.

Judge Waite is a son of Tyler and Lucia (Taylor) Waite. His mother was a daughter of Ebenezer Taylor of Woodbury, Vermont, and a representative of a

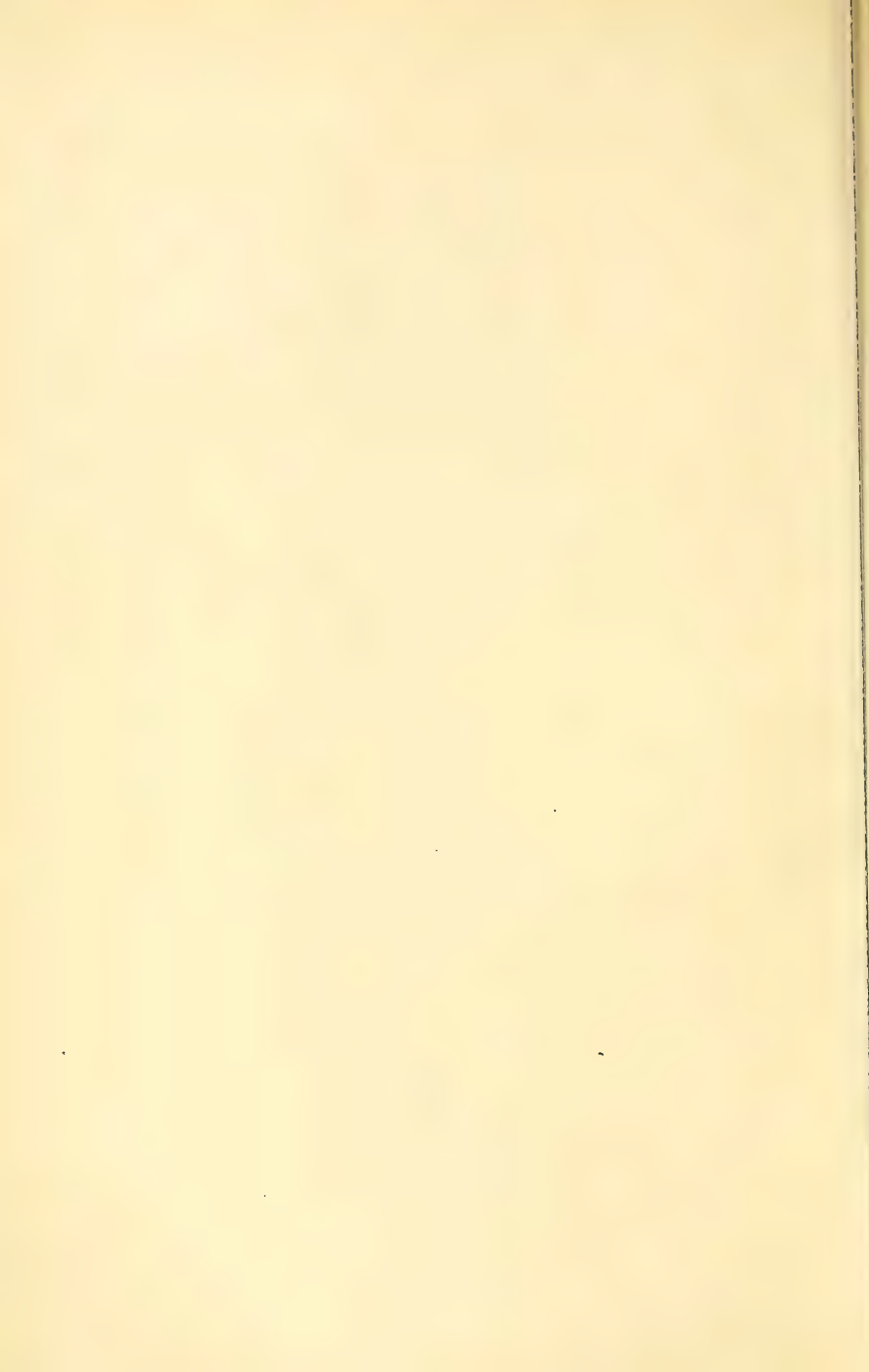
family of Scotch origin. Tyler Waite was a prosperous farmer and a man of education and influence. He and his wife reared and educated a family of seven children, Laura, George E., Lucia, Henry A., Chastina, Ruth and Dexter, but only Henry and Dexter are still living. Dexter has two sons, George and Frank Waite, who are prominent business men of the state of Washington.

Judge Waite attended the public schools of Vermont and after preparing for college took a four years' classical course in the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Connecticut. In his college days he was especially noted for his ability as a writer and speaker and was graduated with high honors. In the year 1856 he arrived in Geneseo, Illinois, and following his admission to the bar in 1858 he at once became a successful lawyer. Advancement at the bar is proverbially slow, yet no dreary halt awaited him. Almost immediately he was accorded a large clientage and the character of his legal business constantly became more important as he demonstrated his ability to successfully cope with the intricate problems of the law. He was almost without exception correct in his application of legal principles and his knowledge of the law was comprehensive and exhaustive so that he was always able to cite a precedent or legal principle that was applicable to his cause. He participated in the organization of the republican party and ever afterward honorably supported its men and measures. He was known throughout the state as a safe, able and courageous political leader and took part in every campaign. He was regarded as the right man for an emergency, seeming to know exactly when and how to express himself to produce the best possible results that could be secured under any given condition. His splendid physical manhood was such as would attract attention in any gathering and he possessed, moreover, an appeal in voice, word and action that made him a strong and forceful speaker before any audience. He never really sought office, but was the choice of the people for important judicial, legislative, and other positions, the duties of which he discharged with great satisfaction to the general public. He was a member of the convention which formed the present constitution of Illinois and was chairman of the committee on retrenchments and reforms. His report to the convention contained, among other things, a recommendation for an article prohibiting special legislation. He proposed the only method to put an end to this abuse and his recommendation was adopted and incorporated into the constitution of the state and is still one of its wisest and best provisions. As one of the framers of the organic law of Illinois he looked beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibilities of the future and with notable sagacity prepared for conditions that might arise. He was a careful student of history, an intelligent observer of all passing events and was well settled in his opinions upon great public questions. He gave support to the cause of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war and in all matters of citizenship stood for state and national honor and for continuous progress where the best interests of the country might be conserved.

On the 8th of May, 1859, in Geneseo, Illinois, Judge Waite was married to Miss Harriet Newell, a daughter of Benjamin and Mary B. (Ford) Wells. Her father, who was born in Connecticut, in March, 1804, died in 1864. He was the youngest son of Thomas Wells, a son of the family to which also belonged Governor Wells of Connecticut, while the Hon. William H. Wells, au-



*Hattie N. Waite*



thor of Wells' Grammar, was a cousin of Mrs. Waite. Benjamin Wells arrived in Geneseo in 1856 and was, therefore, one of its early settlers. His wife was a daughter of Dyer and Esther (Burnett) Ford. She was born in September, 1803, and died in Geneseo, Illinois, in 1886. After the death of her first husband she became the wife of Jonah Hale, a native of Vermont, and following his demise Mrs. Hale went to live with her daughter Mrs. Waite, with whom she continued to live until her demise, her burial being made in the new cemetery of Geneseo. The Ford family, of which Mrs. Waite is a representative, are descendants of Mrs. Martha Ford, who went to Plymouth, Massachusetts, on the ship *Fortune* in 1621 with her children. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Wells were seven children: Thomas Seymour, who died in Connecticut at the age of three years; Mary Lovisa, who died in Connecticut at the age of fourteen; Jeremiah S., who died in Georgia, where he was drafted in the Civil war but went instead as a nurse to the front; Harriet Newell, now Mrs. Waite; John Newton; George Clinton, who died at the age of eight years; and William Averill, also deceased.

Mrs. Waite was born in old Woodstock, Connecticut, and accompanied her parents to Geneseo, in 1856. She was educated in Connecticut and Illinois, preparing herself to enter the senior class at Galesburg but illness in the family prevented her attending Knox College. She taught school in the summers and attended school in the winter months and became one of the best teachers in the graded school of Geneseo. Previous to this time she had been a teacher in select schools. She continued teaching in Geneseo with great success for a number of years prior to her marriage and is a most intelligent lady, whose influence has been a potent factor for the upholding of high, intellectual and social standards. She is a member of the Congregational church and has always been associated with church and Sunday-school work, having been superintendent of the primary Sunday school a decade or more. She has also been associated with various missionary and ladies' aid societies, is now president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Henry county and for a number of years was district president of the Young Women's Christian Temperance Union. She has been a great worker and crusader in the cause of temperance and is now press superintendent for the Columbia Club, a literary organization. Her efforts and activities have been crowned with success, but perhaps most of all her efforts have been rewarded in her temperance work, for which she deserves great credit. Her life has constituted a beneficent influence for good and her labors have been a potent force for the betterment of the community at large. She continues her work along progressive lines, attends many conventions, has delivered speeches on various occasions and many young men owe their reform to her. Gentle, kind and gracious in manner, as well as broad and liberal in thought and purpose, she is loved by all who know her.

Unto Judge and Mrs. Waite were born three daughters: Laura N., born in Geneseo, May 15, 1861, attended the schools of this city and is a well read and widely informed woman. She is a Chautauqua graduate and also a one hundredth degree Ralstonite. She travels a great deal, gaining thereby the broad culture and experience which only travel can bring. She belongs to the Congregational church and makes her home with her mother, being in sympathy with the latter's

work in church and temperance lines. Hattie Mary, born August 8, 1863, in Geneseo, was graduated from the high school of this city and for some years taught in the same public school in which her mother was previously a teacher. She was married in 1886 to Thomas Everett and unto them were born two children, George Waite and Thomas Waite, who died at the age of three years. Mr. Everett died in 1890 and was buried in Louisburg, Kansas. In 1891 Mrs. Everett became the wife of William K. Barnes and lives in Alexandria, Minnesota. Ruth M., born in Geneseo, was graduated from the high school and the Collegiate Institute here and was a successful teacher for several years. In 1895 she became the wife of Henry Dedrick, of this city, and their only child, Henry Waite Dedrick, died in December, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Dedrick now reside in Janesville, Wisconsin.

Judge Waite died June 5, 1901, in Geneseo and on the 9th of that month was laid to rest in the Geneseo cemetery. He was a man of Christian principles and purpose, although not a member of any church. He possessed an original, distinctive personality, characterized by physical courage, will power and character peculiar to himself. In him there was no self-conceit, no pretensions in manner but he impressed one of being possessed of determination and honesty, combined with the lion spirit when aroused. His abilities were best shown in great emergencies. On such occasions he was irresistible and powerful. He arose to the action, becoming an eloquent, forceful speaker, who swayed his hearers and influenced them to the support of the cause which he was advocating. No man could say aught against him. He was strictly honest and his position was never an equivocal one. He was a man of fine personal appearance, six feet in height, of excellent proportions and weighed one hundred and eighty pounds. He carried himself erectly, his head resting firmly on his shoulders, his brown hair tinged with gray; his voice was rich, mellow and charming. His was one of the largest but also one of the saddest funerals held in Geneseo. Judges, lawyers and statesmen from all parts of Illinois came to pay their last tribute of respect and honor to him. His death was the occasion of the deepest and most widespread regret; his memory remains as a cherished possession to those who knew him and his example is a stimulus toward all that is best and noblest in manhood. His last public address was in favor of no-license in his home town of Geneseo. It was an eloquent and stirring appeal, which was conceded to have carried the day, for the town went dry that year. His widow and daughter, Laura, still reside at the old home on First street and the north part of the city. They are socially prominent, while their worth as factors for good in the community is widely acknowledged.

---

#### HON. ADAM LIEBERKNECHT.

The life work of Adam Lieberknecht has had such direct bearing upon the growth and progress of Geneseo and Henry county as to render it imperative that mention be made of him in this volume. Not to know him in this part of the state is to argue oneself unknown, for through half a century he has here

resided and during much of the period has been editor and proprietor of the Geneseo Republic. He was born in the province of Hesse-Darmstadt, near Weinheim, May 9, 1835. His parents were John and Christina Lieberknecht, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father died in that country in 1843, at the age of thirty-seven years, and his widow, long surviving him, came to America in 1852 with her two daughters, her two sons having preceded her in 1851. They settled in New York city, where they remained for three years, and the sons began working at the printer's trade, Adam Lieberknecht making that business his life work. George Lieberknecht, the eldest son, made his way westward to Chicago in 1854 and the same year walked from that city to Rock Island before the railroad was built. He took up his abode there and for many years made that place his home but is now deceased. The daughters of the family were Catharine, who became the wife of F. Sengenwald and is now deceased; and Mary, who resides in Geneseo, Illinois.

Adam Lieberknecht spent the first sixteen years of his life in the fatherland and during that period acquired his education in the public schools. He then accompanied his brother on the emigration to the new world and in 1856 took up his abode in Rock Island, Illinois. In the spring of 1857, however, he made permanent location in Geneseo, and his expert knowledge of the printing trade enabled him to secure a position in the office of the Geneseo Republic, then owned by I. S. Hyatt. Subsequently Mr. Lieberknecht formed a partnership with George A. Hobbs and purchased the Republic. This relation was maintained for sixteen years, at the end of which time Mr. Lieberknecht became sole proprietor and has continued as the owner of the paper to the present time. It is published in the interests of the republican party and is well known as the champion of progressive movements resulting in substantial benefit to the city. The paper presents a neat and attractive appearance and in connection with its publication Mr. Lieberknecht owns and conducts a fine job printing plant and does a general job printing business. He has made this a profitable enterprise and in his life work has kept in touch with the spirit of continuous advancement that has been characteristic of modern journalism.

In 1859 Mr. Lieberknecht was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Kiefer of Geneseo and unto them was born a son, J. F., usually known as Frank. He married Anna Fehlman. Mrs. Caroline Lieberknecht died in the fall of 1864 and in the autumn of the succeeding year Mr. Lieberknecht wedded Miss Rosina Rieger, by whom he had three children: William, Charles and Emma. The three sons are all in the Republic office. Charles married Miss Helen Antes and they have two children: Catharine and Priscilla. Emma is the wife of Ansel Purple and they reside in Columbia, Pennsylvania, where they are rearing their family of four children: Ansel, Leonora, Margaret and William. The death of Mrs. Rosina Lieberknecht occurred in January, 1874, and for his third wife Mr. Lieberknecht chose Miss Priscilla H. Fehlman, whom he wedded in November, 1875. The two children of that marriage are Amalia and Leonora. The former is the wife of Lou de Vausney, assistant cashier of the Seaport National Bank of New York city, and they reside at Newark, New Jersey. Leonora is the wife of Dr. Gustav T. Metz, also of Newark.

Mr. and Mrs. Lieberknecht are members of the Congregational church and are interested in all those measures and movements which tend to promote the moral, intellectual and esthetic progress as well as the material advancement of the community. In politics Mr. Lieberknecht has always been a stalwart republican and has occupied a number of positions of trust and responsibility. Through appointment of Governor Oglesby he served for four years as canal commissioner, was appointed United States consul to Tampico, Mexico, under President Harrison and was retired by President Cleveland. President McKinley appointed him United States consul to Zurich, Switzerland, where he represented the home government for eleven years and then resigned. In October, 1908, he returned to Geneseo and is now occupying the attractive old residence which he built many years ago in which he reared his family. In years gone by he was a trustee of his township and also a member of the Geneseo board of education. In all matters relative to the public welfare he has taken an advanced stand and his labors have been far-reaching and effective forces in promoting the progress of the many interests bearing upon the county's growth. A life of intense and well directed activity has brought him to a position among the substantial citizens of Geneseo, where he not only owns his well equipped printing office but also a beautiful home and other valuable real estate, which contribute materially to his comfort in the evening of life. While he has now passed the seventy-fourth milestone he is a splendidly preserved man who in spirit and interests seems yet in his prime.

---

### GEORGE WOODBRIDGE BUCK.

The years of George Woodbridge Buck's residence in Henry county are seventy-one for he arrived in 1838, being then a little lad of four summers. It was a pioneer district into which the family came, for around the little home for miles stretched the unbroken prairie. Only here and there was a frontier home to be seen, showing that the work of civilization had been begun. Six years before, in a sanguinary conflict, the white race had disputed with the red men their dominion over this part of the country, and there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy to be seen. Deer were frequently found in the forests or upon the open prairie, and wild turkeys, prairie chickens and other feathered game were to be had in abundance. It was amid such surroundings that George W. Buck spent his youth.

A native of the state of New York, he was born in Chautauqua county, April 9, 1834, his parents being Roswell and Harriet (Meach) Buck, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of the Empire state. Roswell Buck was a lumberman of Vermont and continued in the same line of business after his removal to New York. He died in Cattaraugus county, that state, in February, 1862, at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife passed away in 1834, when her son George was but three weeks old. In the family were seven children. two sons and five daughters: Catharine, who married Isaac Schermerhorn; Ma-

tilda; Mary, who married D. D. Groub; Elizabeth; Helen, who married Alfred Fuller; Rufus; and George W.

Left motherless at the age of three weeks, George W. Buck, when three months old, was taken into the family of Isaac and Nancy Stanbro, who in 1837 left New York. Making their way westward to Illinois they arrived in Henry county in May, 1838, and here the subject of this review was reared to manhood and has since made his home. He and John W. Withrow attended the same little log school, where slabs were used for seats, while the writing desk was made of a board laid upon pins driven into the wall. In one end of the room was a large fireplace and the rod was ever a feature in discipline. That teacher, however, had a still more novel method of maintaining order, punishing the children by putting them through a hole and lowering them underneath the puncheon floor. The building was erected without the use of a single nail, being put together with pegs. On the inside of the door was a wooden latch pulled by a string which hung on the outside. The methods of instruction were quite primitive as compared with those of the present day, and the school was conducted on the subscription plan, the teacher having no fixed salary, his income depending upon the number of pupils which he had. Mr. Buck continued with the Stanbro family until sixteen years of age, when he started out for himself, working by the month for a number of years. In this way he gained the capital that at length enabled him to rent land and begin farming for himself. He also bought some oxen and broke prairie, for even up to that time there was still much land in this part of the state that had not yet been placed under the plow. In 1859 he drove an ox team from Geneseo, Illinois, across the plains and through the mountain passes to Maryville, California. Thence he wandered northward into Oregon, where he followed gold mining and also engaged in various pursuits. In November, 1861, he returned to Henry county and the following year donned the blue uniform in defense of the nation, enlisting as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war, holding the rank of sergeant. He acted as wagonmaster in the quartermaster's department and participated in the Atlanta and Tennessee campaigns. After the troops reached Atlanta he was with that great division of the army which, under General Thomas turned to Tennessee and there he participated in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. His corps proceeded in a more roundabout way under General Schofield and landed at Fort Fisher, and the regiment took part in the capture of Fort Anderson and the battle of Wilmington, afterward marching northward to Goldsboro, where they met the forces under General Sherman. Mr. Buck was always a brave and loyal soldier, never faltering in the performance of any military duty, whether called to the firing line or stationed along the lonely picket line.

After the close of the war Mr. Buck received an honorable discharge and returned home. He then purchased sixty-three acres of land in Western township, Henry county, and for many years was actively engaged in farming, adding to his holdings from time to time until now he is the owner of four hundred and seventy-five acres of rich and valuable land. This constitutes one of the finest farms in Western township, upon which he has resided since the war.

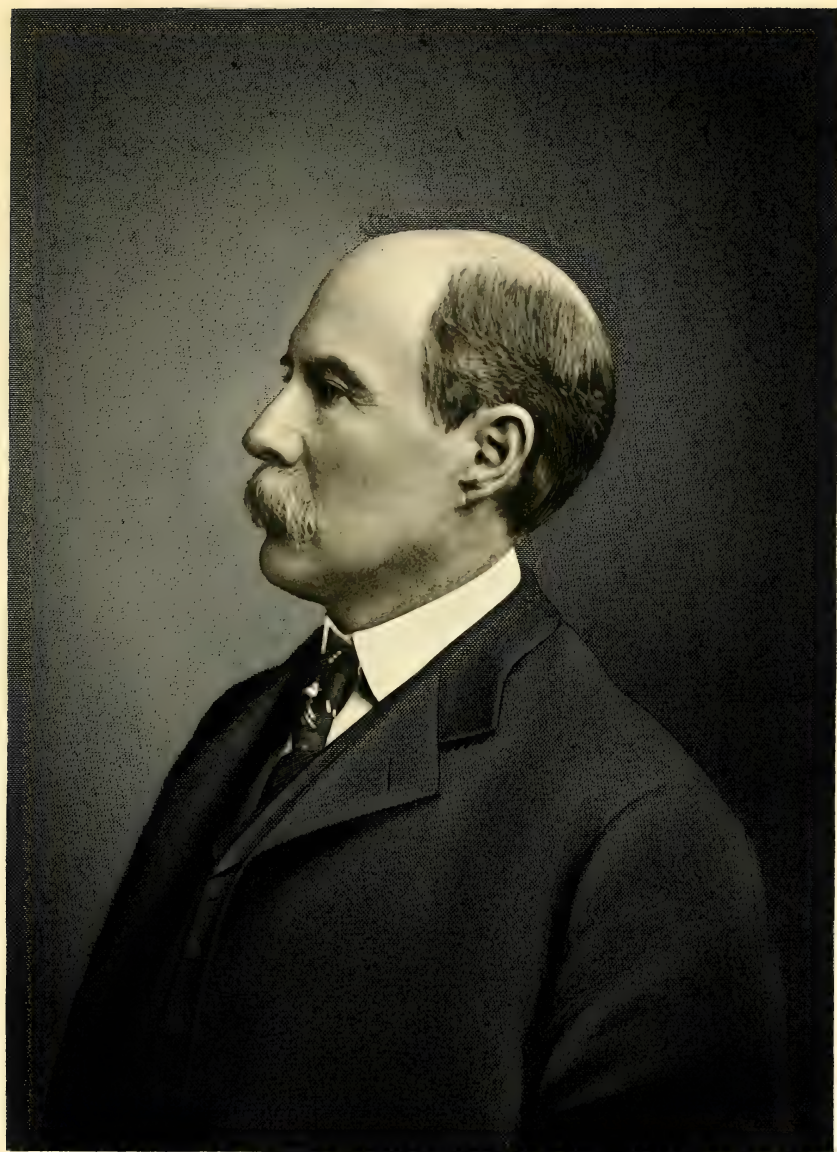
It bears evidence of his careful cultivation and progressive methods and presents a very attractive appearance.

On the 8th of July, 1863, Mr. Buck was united in marriage to Miss Mary N. Glenn, a daughter of James and Nancy (Kincaid) Glenn. Mrs. Buck was born in Henry county. Her father built the first house in this county and also made the first plow manufactured within its borders, this agricultural implement having a wooden mold board hewed out with a broad ax. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Buck were born four children: James Dana, the eldest, married Effie Withrow, and died in January, 1895, leaving a daughter, Hattie. George B. wedded Cora Bryan and they have six children: Zola, Lila, Glenn, Donald, Harold and Nona. Mary Eliza is the wife of George L. Miller and they have three children: Mary, Clara and Blanch. Charles G. wedded Ida Johnson and they have three children: George, Dorothy and Walter. Mrs. Mary A. Buck died in 1897 at the age of fifty-four years, and her death was the occasion of deep regret to many friends as well as to her immediate family, for she possessed excellent traits of character and a kindly spirit that endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. Mr. Buck belongs to Trego Post, No. 394, G. A. R., at Orion. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and was supervisor of his town for many years. He was also chairman of the committee that had charge of the letting of the contract for, and the erection of, the soldiers' monument. On many other occasions he has cooperated in movements of a public nature and at all times has given his support on the side of progress, reform and improvement. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He relates many interesting incidents of the early days, when most of the homes were log cabins or little frame houses of small dimensions. In June the prairies were covered with a million wild flowers and in December with one dazzling, unbroken sheet of snow. A traveler could ride for miles across the prairie without coming to a house or a fence to impede his progress, but one by one the settlers came, an intelligent and enterprising class of people who took advantage of the natural resources offered by the county and have since done an important part in the upbuilding of this commonwealth. Mr. Buck has now passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey, and seventy-one years of that period have been spent in Henry county. Few men have more intimate knowledge of its history, for the events which others have learned from reading or hearsay have been matters to him of personal knowledge or experience.

---

JOHN H. PIERCE.

John H. Pierce occupied a central place on the stage of public activities. He is regarded as having been one of the most prominent industrial characters of the middle west during his day and generation, and Kewanee acknowledges her indebtedness to him as one of her foremost builders. He lived his life to noble purposes and it was crowned with successful activities and characterized by the development of high ideals.



*J. H. Pierce*



Mr. Pierce was a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred a few miles west of Aurora on the 11th of January, 1843. He was a son of Thomas and Ruth (Powell) Pierce. The father was a native of Wales and in his youthful days came to America, settling first in the state of New York, where he made his home from 1817 to 1835 and where he learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade, following contracting and building until 1835. He then came to Illinois and established his home near Aurora in Kane county, turning his attention to general farming until 1854, when he removed to Aurora and lived retired until his death in 1872. His wife passed away twenty years later, dying in 1892. At his death John H. Pierce was survived by two members of his father's family—Thomas P. Pierce, a resident of Kewanee, and Mrs. Howard, of Aurora.

In the county of his nativity John H. Pierce spent the days of his boyhood and youth and his education was acquired in the schools of Ottawa county. His first position was in the postoffice at Aurora, and in early manhood he crossed the plains in a prairie schooner to California, attracted by the gold discoveries on the Pacific coast. While he did not accumulate a princely fortune in his westward venture, he returned with several thousand dollars, thus gaining the capital to enable him to make a substantial start in business life. While in the west he worked as a freighter for a considerable time, driving a six-horse team over the steep passes of the Sierras. Arriving in Kewanee in the '60s, he continued his residence here during the greater part of the time until his demise, and was one of the most important factors in the upbuilding and progress of the city, not only through the development of a splendid business enterprise but also through active participation in measures which were direct factors in the material improvement of Kewanee. At his arrival here he found a village which his efforts were largely instrumental in developing into a city of considerable industrial importance. With his brother, T. P. Pierce, he engaged in the hardware business, and before this time and even while he was engaged therein, he traveled throughout this section of the state, calling upon farmers and others, buying produce and scrap iron. Many of his most cherished friendships dated back to those days when he came into intimate association with the people of the farming sections. At length he concentrated his energies solely upon the hardware business and at length withdrew from that line to give his attention to manufacturing when he entered the services of the old Anderson Steam Heating Company, from which ultimately developed the Haxtun Steam Heating Company and then the Western Tube Company. He was connected with the Western Tube Company and its operations from 1870, at which time there were only ten or twelve men employed, while one building sheltered the whole plant. The growth of the industry is indicated in the fact that today the factory and mill buildings cover most thirty acres, and the entire equipment of the plant is of a most modern character. Under the guidance of Mr. Pierce the business developed along substantial lines until employment was furnished to more than four thousand workmen. He continued in charge of the Kewanee business until 1890, when, following the amalgamation of interests of this character in America he went to Pittsburg to become manager of the Tube Rolling Mills of the National Tube Company, but after a few years returned to this city to continue the development of the business of the Western Tube Company. The great plant at this place

is a monument to his enterprise, business ability and commercial integrity. The character of his relations to his employes is indicated in the fact that there was never a strike in the plant during all the years in which he continued in its control. He appreciated good service on the part of his employes and manifested that appreciation in promotions as opportunity offered, thus giving substantial token of his trust in and regard for those who represented him in a business way. He was always keenly interested in his employes and before the factory became so large that he could not personally oversee the work of all departments, he knew almost every man by name and with many he was on familiar terms. They regarded him as a friend and he was ever deeply interested in their welfare. He was not only fair and just in his treatment but often manifested the higher attribute of mercy, and gave substantial token of his friendly regard when assistance was needed. In recent years he gave most of his attention to the affairs of the Big Creek Coal Company, of which he was one of the organizers and a member of its board of directors. He was also a representative of the directorate of the Union National Bank of Kewanee, and his sound business judgment proved a potent force in the successful management of the various interests with which he was closely associated. His opinions upon any vital business proposition were seldom if ever at fault and his keen and discriminating sagacity was manifested in the successful outcome which followed the adoption of his ideas. His position in business circles was indicated in his election to the presidency of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

His was a beautiful home life, for unfaltering devotion to his family was one of his marked characteristics. In early manhood he married Miss Sarah Ingalls, and unto them were born three children: Charles I. Pierce, now president of the Big Creek Coal Company; Frank E. Pierce, a practicing physician of Chicago; and Mrs. Lillian Rice, the wife of Robert Rice, one of the superintendents of the Burlington railroad in Missouri.

In Masonry Mr. Pierce was deeply interested, taking various degrees in the order, and in Kewanee was a member of the Masonic building association which constructed the Masonic Temple here. His religious faith was indicated in his attendance on the services of the Congregational church and he belonged to the Union League Club and other Chicago organizations.

Aside from business Mr. Pierce was probably best known to the public in his political relations. He was one of Illinois' most prominent republicans in his advocacy and support of party principles and yet he was by no means what is popularly termed a politician. He advocated an issue or political position because of a firm belief in the justice and the value of the cause, and it was because of this that he was called by popular suffrage to the office of state senator, representing his district, composed of Rock Island and Henry counties, in the upper house of the state legislature for two sessions, or in the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth general assemblies. His position upon any vital question was never an equivocal one. He stood firmly for what he believed to be right, and exhibited those qualities of strength which have been so conspicuous throughout his business career—ability, unswerving sagacity and continuity of purpose. His associates in the senate, spoke of him in terms of praise and kindness and he won many strong friendships during his legislative career. His services in the senate

familiarized him with legislative methods and procedure and when Governor Tanner was elected in 1896 he urged Mr. Pierce to accept the position of state penitentiary commissioner. At length he agreed to become chairman of the board of trustees of Joliet Penitentiary if he could be assured that business principles and not political methods should hold sway under the new regime. To secure this he announced that Major McClaughry should be appointed warden and this was done with the result that the affairs of the great penal institution were placed upon a business basis. Mr. Pierce did not seek public office and frequently declined positions of prominence and honor. Each succeeding year, however, found him occupying a higher position in the estimation of the people of his home place and of this part of the state, and there was a strong desire that the state should recognize the great ability of Mr. Pierce by making him its governor. He received the strongest endorsement of various counties in his part of Illinois. He was made a member of the Illinois Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and at different times other honors were conferred upon him. In his home city he was loved and honored as few men are loved. He always maintained the deepest interest in this city and its welfare and did everything in his power to promote the interests of the community. He passed away after an operation in Mercy Hospital in Chicago, July 22, 1908, and was laid to rest in the Kewanee cemetery by his brethren of the Masonic fraternity.

In the funeral sermon Dr. Nelson said: "I speak as one who has enjoyed knowing the rare qualities of him who was a true friend. The greatest gifts are not always material riches. God's greatest gift is noble, true manhood; honest men of integrity who have not the base element of duplicity; who have a sterling ring; who believe in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. In the gift of Mr. Pierce God conferred on Kewanee and the state of Illinois such a man. In building the great plant of the Western Tube Company, which grew from an insignificant institution employing but a few men, to the present great factory, largely through Mr. Pierce's successful management and hard work, he has left a monument which will endure. I have talked with the toilers and men of other stations in life of Mr. Pierce and have yet to hear from a single one any disparaging remarks concerning him. He was an approachable, kind-hearted man, and his friendship was true. Whatever tributes are paid this day and succeeding days to John H. Pierce will be inadequate to those who knew him best and who were familiar with the work in behalf of Kewanee which is to his credit. The spoken word and the written word will fail to convey the strength of that intangible hold which Mr. Pierce's life had upon the affection and upon the respect of his associates. The deepest and the most sincere emotions will remain unexpressed. Mr. Pierce was a creator; a constructor; one who, undismayed and undaunted by obstacles and by handicaps, forged successfully the links of success. There are many John Smiths in this world—men who go their routine way not animated by ideals or by ambitions, who leave their community no greater at the end than at the beginning of their career. There are, unfortunately, few John Pierces, men with initiative and with strength of purpose, who find in difficulties and in embarrassments only inspirations to greater effort. Kewanee has been fortunate in having as one of her citizens a man of this type.

The city today owes more of its material prosperity of the last quarter century to this man, whose passing is recorded today, than to any other. Mr. Pierce was too well known in Kewanee to call for comment on those qualities that marked his life. He was a man who mingled with the people and his personality was not kept in a secret closet. He passed to and fro among us and all knew him well. There will be as much sorrow in the humble cottage of many a man who labored in the shops under Mr. Pierce's direction as there will be in the home of the wealthy neighbors, who were his social companions. Mr. Pierce had engaging qualities that attracted men; he knew how to appeal to them and how to win them; he was a man of infinite tact, of surpassing judgment of men and of clearest vision. These things not less than his acknowledged executive and business ability drew men to him."

---

### CHARLES FRANCIS INGALS.

When central Illinois was largely one great unsettled prairie, covered with its native grasses, crossed and recrossed by sloughs which made traveling difficult, when its streams were unbridged and along their banks grew the timber Charles Francis Ingals became a resident of Lee county. In later life he lived for a number of years at Kewanee and was well known in this part of the state. He was born January 18, 1817, in the town of Abington, Windham county, Connecticut. The ancestry is traced back to Edmond Ingals, who settled at Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1628. He was killed by falling through a bridge while going from Boston to Lynn, his death occurring at Andover, Massachusetts, February 8, 1718. His son James, born September 24, 1669, married Hannah Abbott, April 16, 1695, and died June 27, 1735. Their son James, born August 9, 1695, was married November 5, 1719, to Mary Stevens and they had seven children: James, born August 30, 1720; Deborah, born April 29, 1722; Ephraim, born November 26, 1725; Mary, who was born September 27, 1727, and was married December 7, 1777, to Eben Abbott; Jebediah, born November 3, 1729; a daughter born October 18, 1731; and Simeon, born January 12, 1737. The father of C. F. Ingals was Ephraim Ingals, who was born September 6, 1764, and died February 12, 1831. He married Lucy Goodell, April 26, 1801. She was the daughter of Amasa Goodell and died April 2, 1829. Their children were: Mary S., who was born May 7, 1802; Henry Laurens, born June 9, 1804; Lucy, who was born August 11, 1807, and died at Dedham, Massachusetts, January 22, 1887; Lydia, born June 20, 1809; and Deborah, born December 3, 1811; Edmond, who was born April 14, 1814, and died March 19, 1835; Charles Francis; George Addison, who was born February 1, 1820, and died at Oak Park, Illinois, February 14, 1884; and Ephraim, who was born May 26, 1823, and died December 18, 1900, in Chicago.

The fall after his mother's death C. F. Ingals, then a lad of twelve years, was sent to Cavendish, Vermont, where he lived with his brother-in-law Addison Fletcher for five years, or until he came to Illinois with his brothers and sisters, Henry, Edmond, Lydia and Deborah. On the death of their father in 1831 it was decided to sell the old farm and all of the children with the exception

of Mary and Lucy removed to what was then the far west. The farm comprised two hundred acres and had been in the family through four generations. It was in 1832 that Henry and George A. Ingals, just after the Black Hawk war, journeyed westward and settled on the Sangamon river bottoms in Illinois. Later with two sisters and a brother Charles F. Ingals made the journey, traveling westward after the primitive manner of the time, sometimes riding and sometimes walking in order to make their journey in the most comfortable and economical manner. They passed through Chicago when it contained less than fifteen hundred inhabitants. On reaching the home of steamboat navigation they proceeded down the Illinois river to Beardstown and on to their destination. That year C. F. Ingals was employed to bind wheat at a dollar per day. Later he rode to Springfield and entered forty acres of land. The claim was made by squatting upon it in June, 1836. It was then only surveyed into townships. He and his brothers cut considerable fencing timber from that place. During the fall months of 1834 he went north with Captain Storrs and located an excellent claim ten miles south of Kewanee in Henry county. Edmond Ingals died and C. F. Ingals felt inadequate to the task of developing and improving his new claim so he took up teaching at Beardstown and for eleven terms had charge of the school there held in a little brick building. In the meantime he made a trip with his uncle to a point near Buffalo Rock, on the Illinois river, and soon afterward located a claim ten miles south of there, on which he lived for a half century. He located eighty acres of timber land and bought a half section of prairie and then chopped timber for a few days to show that the land was occupied. He then returned to the Sangamon bottoms, where he made arrangements and secured equipments to cultivate his land. His brother Addison joined him in this task and after two weeks they had a rough log cabin ready for occupancy. Thirteen men and boys assisted in raising it and his family occupied that primitive home for twelve years. It was fourteen by sixteen feet, one of the typical cabin homes of the time. His sister Deborah came to act as his housekeeper and with characteristic energy he devoted his attention to breaking the prairie and cultivating the fields. Among their first crops were fifty bushels of potatoes. These with a beef which they dressed and an occasional venison steak constituted their food supplies through the first winter. It seemed impossible to Mr. Ingals at that time that the country ever would be settled, so boundless seemed the prairies. In the summer of 1837 this pioneer home was visited by an old Vermont acquaintance, Dr. R. F. Adams, who claimed the hand of Deborah Ingals in marriage some time afterward.

During the season of 1838 C. F. Ingals left the farm and returned to the east, where he won a companion and helpmate for life's journey in his marriage to Miss Sarah Hawkins. She was born March 15, 1819, in Reading, Vermont, a daughter of John Sullivan Hawkins, the fourth son of Captain William A. Hawkins, a Revolutionary soldier. John S. Hawkins was born in Milton, New Hampshire, January 30, 1785. The family afterwards removed to a farm in the town of Reading, Windsor county, Vermont. He was married in Cavendish, Vermont, June 11, 1818, to Mary, daughter of Ezekiel and Hannah (Ames) Morrison. Mrs. Hawkins was born in Peterboro, New Hampshire, and was one of eight children. For some time John S. Hawkins engaged in merchan-

dising as a member of the firm of Farwell & Hawkins, of Reading. His daughter Mrs. Ingals was instructed in all of the duties of the household in her girlhood days and acquired a good education, largely attending select schools in different parts of New England. At length she went to Brooklyn, New York, to live with an uncle there, and remained in that city until her marriage. She returned to her father's home to prepare for the wedding, which was celebrated by the Rev. Joseph Freeman on the 6th of September, 1838. On that afternoon the young couple started on their long journey to their western home, traveling in a one-horse wagon, their baggage consisting of three trunks and a hand basket. By easy stages they proceeded to Buffalo and thence by lake to Detroit. From that point they traveled to Laport, Indiana, and after a week pleasantly passed with relatives they arrived at their home on the 12th of October. Their house was a little cabin, twelve by fifteen feet inside, the roof covered with shakes. There was also a shed kitchen used in summer. The furniture consisted of two chairs, two benches, a cook stove and a bed in the lower room, while in the loft above there were three beds, one of these being curtained off for the use of guests. The family met with all of the experiences of pioneer life, with its hardships, privations and difficulties, its pleasures and its hospitality. In 1839 Mr. and Mrs. Ingals with his sister Deborah and her prospective husband, Dr. Adams, started with Mr. Woodworth to his home in Ottawa, where the Doctor and Deborah were to be married. Mr. Woodworth was the possessor of a buggy and the others rode in a wagon. On the way Mrs. Ingals rode for a while with Mr. Woodworth and, thinking to make time, they drove on ahead of the party but became lost in a dense fog and not until daylight came could they proceed on their way to their destination. For fifty years the family lived upon the old homestead farm. Sorrow at times entered the household by the death of relatives but joy also took up her abode there and altogether the life on the old home farm for parents and children was a most happy one. The original pioneer home was replaced by a frame dwelling, nineteen by thirty feet. As the years passed the country became more thickly settled and neighbors were not so widely scattered. Churches and schools were organized and the advantages of the older east were here introduced.

Mr. Ingals gave his attention in undivided manner to the work of the farm until after the discovery of gold in California. In the spring of 1850 he joined a party that proceeded by wagon train across the country, starting about the 26th of March. Supplies were purchased at St. Louis and the wagon train was four months in reaching its destination. Mr. Ingals at the time of his departure expected to be gone not more than two years. He left to his wife the care of three children: Charles, four years of age; Fletcher, two years of age; and a little daughter, Sarah, three weeks old. When he had been absent three years he wrote for his wife to meet him in New York, but, changing his mind, remained another year so that four years elapsed ere he returned to his home. Mrs. Ingals had made preparations for the trip to New York ere she heard of her husband's changed plans and concluded to make a visit in the east among relatives, which she did. When Mr. Ingals planned his return for the following year he met his wife at Laporte, Indiana, and then both went to the east and visited among relatives and friends there whom they had not seen from the

time of their marriage. After their return they resumed possession of the home farm and father and mother bent their energies to the cultivation of the fields and the management of the household. In the fall of 1856 they erected an addition to their house, all this indicating that they were prospering as the years passed. About that time the Illinois Central Railroad was completed and a station located three and a half miles from their farm called Sublette.

As the years passed on five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ingals: Charles Hawkins, whose birth occurred at Lee Center, Illinois, March 11, 1846; Ephraim Fletcher, born at Lee Center, September 29, 1848; Sarah Deborah, born March 6, 1850; Arianna Morrison, born March 3, 1857; and Mary Stevens, born December 28, 1862. Always ambitious to give their children the best opportunities possible they were sent to the district schools until they had mastered the branches of learning therein taught and after which they were sent away to school. The daughter Sarah attended school in Kewanee, Illinois, and afterward the seminary at Mount Carroll for two years. The sons were sent to the normal at Bloomington and were there at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. Charles was accepted as a soldier on the second attempt to enlist and did active duty at the front, returning to his home at the close of the war. For a time he engaged in the hardware business at Rock Falls and later took charge of the home farm, which he operated on shares. Subsequently he began the cultivation of a farm which his father gave him in Sublette. He was married March 1, 1871, to Mary I. Morse. Ephraim Fletcher Ingals, after leaving the normal, spent two years as a student in Mount Morris, Illinois, and after teaching one term entered Bryant & Stratton Commercial College. His proficiency was such that he was soon recommended for the position of bookkeeper in a wholesale wooden ware store. He filled the position until ill health forced him to return home and later he rented the home farm for a year. He then took up the study of medicine in Rush Medical College and, completing the course in two years, he then accepted a hospital position, which he filled for eighteen months. He then went abroad for the benefit of his eyesight and on his return to Chicago began the practice of medicine in that city and also acted for many years as one of the lecturers in Rush Medical College. He was married September 5, 1876, to Lucy S. Ingals. Sarah Ingals was married September 6, 1869, to John H. Pierce. Arianna M. became the wife of William H. Morgan on the 6th of September, 1878, and on the 8th of December, 1886, Mary S. Ingals became the wife of Charles C. Jacobs, of Amboy. These two daughters were students in Mount Carroll Seminary.

In 1873 Mr. Ingals erected a fine residence upon his farm and in the ensuing years it was the delight of the parents to entertain their children and grandchildren there. At length they decided to sell the old home place and this was done in March, 1885. The two succeeding years Mr. and Mrs. Ingals largely passed in Kewanee and Chicago and spent the winter of 1887 in California. The following winter they were in Glenwood, Florida, and in the winter of 1889 went again to California. In the years 1890 and 1891 they lived in Kewanee and Chicago and in the succeeding four winters were again in Florida. They then established their home at No. 507 West Adams street, where they continued to

reside until the death of Mr. Ingals, the cold winter seasons, however, being passed in the sunny south.

All through the period of his residence in central Illinois Mr. Ingals took an active and helpful part in the work of progress and improvement, lending his aid and influence at all times to the support of such measures as he deemed would prove beneficial to that part of the state. Lee county was organized about 1840 and when but twenty years of age he was elected one of the three county commissioners by whom county affairs were at that time managed. He served a three years' term in office and during that period the courthouse was erected at a cost of about ten thousand dollars and a log jail at a cost of eighteen hundred. Mr. and Mrs. Ingals lived to celebrate their sixty-third wedding anniversary on the 6th of September, 1901. They passed the winters of 1901 and 1902 happily in their Chicago home, but in April of the latter year Mr. Ingals became ill and on the 2d of July passed away. A long useful and honorable life was ended and she with whom he had so long traveled life's journey happily was left alone. The labors, the nature and characteristics of each had supplemented and rounded out the life of the other and their activity in former years brought them to a quiet and serene old age, in which the comforts of life were their's to enjoy as they spent the hours in each other's companionship. Mrs. Ingals died February 12, 1908, at the age of eighty-nine years.

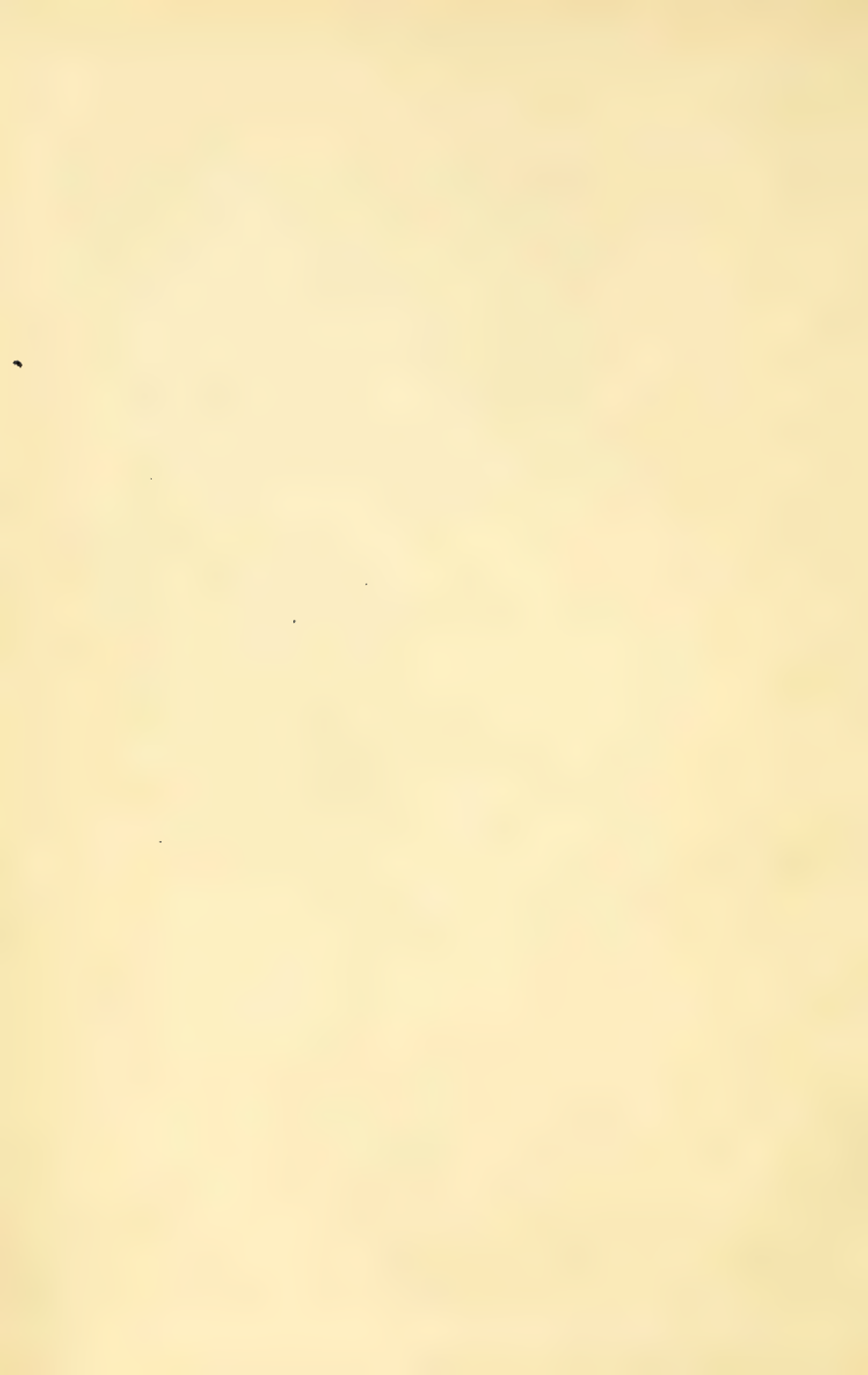
---

#### GEORGE RANDALL PARRISH.

Every community points with pride to one or more of its citizens whose records they regard with honor. The city of Kewanee is known as the home of George Randall Parrish, and every resident in the place is proud of the fact. It is there that he started upon life's journey and in the old home he is continuing the literary labors which have made him known as one of the foremost novelists of the present age. He is the only son of Rufus Parker and Frances Adeline (Hollis) Parrish and was born in "Rose Cottage" on the present site of the Methodist Episcopal church, Kewanee, June 10, 1858. He is of Revolutionary stock on both sides, his maternal grandfather being an officer of the Concord Minutemen and his paternal great-grandfather a New Hampshire soldier at Bunker Hill and Bennington. His paternal grandfather was a major in the war of 1812. The old family home was at Gilmanton, New Hampshire, but the parents removed to Kewanee from Boston, where Rufus Parker Parrish had been engaged in business and was prominently associated with William Lloyd Garrison and others in the anti-slavery cause. Both parents had a wide acquaintance with the famous Boston citizens of that era, including Longfellow, Holmes, Whittier, Wendell Phillips and Emerson. They came to Kewanee, then the merest excuse of a village, in April, 1855, the husband becoming connected with the pioneer store of Morse & Willard, then situated at the corner of Main and Fourth streets. A little later the firm became Parrish & Faulkner, the business finally being sold to Elias Lyman, being thus the nucleus for the present large depart-



*Geo Randall Parrish*



ment store of Lyman-Lay Company. From the time of arrival until his death in 1903 Mr. Parrish was ranked among the most prominent citizens of this community, where he conducted a book store and held many offices of trust. St. John's Episcopal church was established and maintained largely through his efforts and for twenty-five years he was president of the public library board.

George Randall Parrish was educated in the Kewanee public schools, graduating from the old academy building in the second class, that of 1875, being on that occasion the class prophet. In addition he attended Allen's Academy at Lake Forest, Illinois, and Griswold College, Davenport, Iowa. Deciding upon law as a profession, he took one year at the Union College of Law, Chicago, completing his course at the Iowa State University, where he won the state bar prize for the best essay on a legal topic. He was admitted before the supreme court of Iowa in May, 1879, but his certificate was withheld until he became of age. Mr. Parrish went immediately to Wichita, Kansas, and became an assistant in the law office of William C. Little, a year later forming a partnership with E. S. Martin, at one time principal of the Kewanee high school. Devoting much time to politics and having achieved a reputation as a public speaker, he was elected city attorney, besides being a delegate to county and state conventions. His health breaking down from close confinement, he crossed the plains in 1882 with a cattle party, walking most of the way to Las Vegas, New Mexico. Arriving there he discovered conditions had arisen in Wichita which left him practically moneyless and compelled him to labor at anything possible. During the next few months he worked at track-laying, engine wiping and firing between Las Vegas and Albuquerque, on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, finally going as a sheep driver to Fort Sumner. He was camped on the outskirts of that place when Billy the Kid was killed by the sheriff of Lincoln county, and saw the desperado both before and after death. Joining a party of prospectors, the next few months were passed in the wildest regions of Arizona. Gold was found, but within the limits of an Apache reservation, and the party was driven out by United States soldiers. After suffering many hardships en route, Mr. Parrish reached Greeley, Colorado, and secured work on the Greeley-Loveland canal, a little later making his way to Denver. Here he became connected as a reporter with the Rocky Mountain News and began a newspaper career, extending over a number of years, serving for various periods with metropolitan and country publications and in every branch of the work. He has done work on the Grafton (Nebraska) Leader, Kewanee (Illinois) Courier and Independent, Sioux City (Iowa) Times, Omaha (Nebraska) World-Herald and the Chicago Times.

In 1886, while managing editor of the Grafton (Nebraska) Leader, Mr. Parrish was persuaded to enter the Congregational ministry, being licensed by the Elkhorn Association and given charge of churches at Leigh and Howells, Nebraska. He was later ordained by the Blue Valley Association and held pastorates at Harvard, Nebraska, Mattoon, Illinois, Constantine, Michigan, and Marshalltown, Iowa. He was chairman of the Home Missionary Committee for Southern Illinois and one of the founders of Southern Collegiate Institute at Albion. In 1888 he stumped the entire state of Nebraska under the republican state committee, accompanied by a double quartette of ladies, and later lectured extensively throughout many northern states.

In 1887 Mr. Parrish was married to Miss Mary A. Hammon, of Clarkson, Nebraska, and four children were born unto this union, two of whom survive, namely: Robert Arthur, a cadet at St. John's Military Academy, Delafield, Wisconsin; and Philip Hammon, of Lynch, Nebraska. He was divorced in 1899.

During the winter of 1902 Mr. Parrish resumed newspaper work in Chicago, being first connected with the Associated Press, and later engaged in commercial journalism. August 6th of that year he was married to Miss Rose I. Tyrrell, of Kewanee, and the following spring published his first work of fiction—*When Wilderness Was King*—through A. C. McClurg & Company, Chicago, who have ever since been his publishers. This manuscript was submitted and accepted when but half completed and for a first book met with remarkable sale. All of his previous experience, the atmosphere of culture and refinement of his boyhood home, his literary and legal education, the hardships and privations which he endured upon the plains of the west, his campaign experiences and his labors in the ministry, all constituted a preparation and equipment for the work which he is now doing in the literary world, and which has made him one of the most successful of the modern writers. Since the publication of his first book he has devoted his entire time to literary work, having published the following books of fiction and history: *My Lady of the North*, (1904); *A Sword of the Old Frontier*, (1905); *Bob Hampton of Placer*, (1906); *Historic Illinois*, (1906); *Beth Norvell*, (1907); *The Great Plains*, (1907); *Prisoners of Chance*, (1908); *The Last Voyage of the Donna Isabel*, (1908); *My Lady of the South*, (1909). Many of these have been credited among the "six best sellers," and have received high praise both at home and abroad. Mr. Parrish's publishers in Great Britain are G. P. Putnam & Sons.

Since 1904 Mr. Parrish has made his home at Kewanee, in the old family house at 235 South Chestnut street, which was built in 1859, and has identified himself with the best interests of the city, serving as one of the directors of the Commercial Club. He is leading knight of the local Elks Lodge and a frequent speaker at public meetings, not only in Kewanee but throughout the state. He holds membership in the State Historical Society, Sons of the American Revolution, National Geographical Society and American Association for the Advancement of Science.

---

#### JOSEPH and JOHN C. HAMMOND.

Among the highly respected citizens of Geneseo were Joseph and John C. Hammond, two public benefactors whose names will be imperishable in the history of the community. In the year 1897, Joseph Hammond donated to Geneseo township a fine public library, expending ten thousand dollars for the building and its equipment. Subsequent to his demise his son, John C. Hammond, established and gave to the city the J. C. Hammond Hospital and when his will was read it was found that he had provided a trust fund of over twenty thousand dollars for the hospital and library. The gifts of father and son amounted to more than forty thousand dollars in all.

John C. Hammond was born in West Wardsboro, Vermont, on the 15th of October, 1837, and departed this life in Geneseo, Illinois, on the 3d of October, 1908. He was the only child of Joseph and Polly (Converse) Hammond. On the paternal side he traced his ancestry back to Thomas Hammond, of Lavenham, England, whose son Thomas emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1634. The latter's descendants were renowned in colonial history, Samuel Hammond, the great-grandfather of John C. Hammond, being one of the famous "tea party" whose acts precipitated the American Revolution. He likewise aided the colonists in their struggle for independence as a soldier in the Continental army. Peter Hammond, the grandfather of John C. Hammond, lived to attain the remarkable age of exactly one hundred and two years and at the time of his death was the oldest Mason in the United States. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Charlotte Holbrook, was also of Revolutionary stock. Joseph Hammond, the father of John C. Hammond, was a public-spirited, upright and honored citizen, served as the second mayor of Geneseo and held various other positions of trust. The Hammond public library building, which he gave to the city shortly prior to his demise, stands as a memorial of his revered name. His life was one of great usefulness and activity and in all of its relations he exemplified the beneficent teachings of the Masonic fraternity, of which he was a valued member. In early manhood he wedded Miss Polly Converse, who also came of old New England stock. They traveled life's journey happily together for almost sixty-six years and passed away within five months of each other.

John C. Hammond, who spent his early life in the town of his nativity, was a young man of nineteen years when he came with his parents to Geneseo, this county, in 1856. For a number of years, in the '60s, he conducted a grocery store southwest of the park but subsequently took up his abode in Mount Ayr, Iowa, where he went into business and made his home until after the death of his wife. Soon afterward he returned to Geneseo and later became connected with the Eagle Stove Works. For several years illness necessitated his retirement from active life and he devoted his attention largely to the care of his aged parents.

On the 12th of September, 1865, at Tiskilwa, Illinois, Mr. Hammond was united in marriage to Miss Eva Perkins, who passed away at Mount Ayr, Iowa, May 16, 1876, when a little more than thirty-three years of age. One of the local papers said: "She was a lovely woman, of a sweet disposition and winning manners, warm-hearted, social and intelligent—one whom every one loved. Although Mr. Hammond never said much, the great sorrow of his life was in the loss of his beloved wife, and his heart ever remained true to her memory."

Mr. Hammond was called to his final rest on the 3d of October, 1908, and the funeral services were conducted at the home of Mrs. Ella N. Taylor on Monday, October 5, by the Rev. M. J. Miller, the first pastor of the Geneseo Unitarian church, who also officiated at the funeral of the father and mother of the deceased. His remains were interred beside those of his wife in Oakwood. The following is an extract from one of the obituaries appearing in the local papers at the time of his death: "We all know of his generous benefactions, his gift to the city of the J. C. Hammond Hospital and its partial support for some time, and his other charities—made so quietly and conscientiously. He was exemplary in many ways, a man of no bad habits, and while not of a strongly religious nature, he was

a believer in the Bible and carried out its teachings in so far as lay in his power. Of a peace-loving disposition, he was loath to trouble those about him and during his long illness was always striving to efface self and to say and do just the right thing. He was a quiet, unassuming character but full of good cheer and kindness to all, and he leaves many friends here that he made in his journeyings who will sadly regret his passing. We who have witnessed his patience under sufferings endured for years, knowing full well what the inevitable result would be, must feel that a wonderfully courageous example has been given us, and while we regret that his life has been brought to its close, yet we ought to feel that his release from suffering is a blessing."

---

### COLONEL SYLVESTER BLISH.

No history of Henry county would be complete without extended reference to the Blish family, which was founded in this part of the state by Colonel Sylvester Blish in the year 1836. He was a son of Deacon Thomas and Prudence (Hubbard) Blish and was born at Glastonbury, Connecticut, December 31, 1790. The Blish genealogy published in 1904 says:

"Sylvester Blish was a very active and energetic man. He had the fiery and impetuous temperament of his mother, combined with the determination of his father. He was public spirited and active in politics, holding many public offices in Connecticut. He was lister in Glastonbury in 1815, 1817 and 1818; was tithingman 1817, 1819 and 1826; was surveyor of highways in 1820, 1821, 1823, 1824, 1825 and 1827; was on board the relief in 1822 and 1823; was collector of taxes in 1825; was grand juryman in 1828 and 1829; was town agent and fence-viewer in 1830; selectman in 1832 and 1833; and a member of the Connecticut general assembly in 1835.

"He was also prominent in military matters and rose through gradual promotions until he was colonel in the Connecticut militia for several years before he left Connecticut in 1836. He was one of the administrators of the estate of his brother Aaron Hubbard Blish, and also administered upon the estate of his father.

"In 1835 a rumor was spread through Connecticut and Massachusetts that the Catholics were colonizing the fertile Mississippi valley with the intention of founding a Catholic hierarchy there, and a movement was inaugurated with the object of sending out Protestant colonies and settlements to counteract the Catholic movement. A stock company was organized in Wethersfield, Connecticut, for this purpose, the Rev. Caleb Tenney, of Wethersfield, and the Rev. Gardner Spring of New York, being among the leaders of the enterprise. Colonel Blish joined the Wethersfield company, which was called 'The Connecticut Association'. A fund raised and in 1836 Colonel Sylvester Blish, Elizur Goodrich and Rev. Ithamar Pillsbury were chosen to proceed west and purchase lands. Mr. Pillsbury was not a member of the association, but had been in the west the preceding year in the interest of another similar association, so that his experience was valuable. Elizur Goodrich was a surveyor. They came to Illinois

a trip that was not without considerable hardship at that time. Mr. Goodrich became discouraged by the vastness and seeming endlessness of the prairies, but Colonel Blish, encouraged by the zeal and hopefulness of Mr. Pillsbury, pushed the work to a completion.

"They selected and entered over fifteen thousand acres of land in Henry county, Illinois, and returned to Connecticut. Colonel Blish was so impressed with the fertility of the soil in Illinois and the future possibilities of the country that he determined to make his home there. He sold his lands in Connecticut and in the spring of 1837 started with his family for Illinois, making the entire trip in a carriage. His wagons, farming utensils and household effects were shipped by water to New Orleans and from thence came up the Mississippi river to the settlement at Rock Island, about forty miles from the location of the colony lands. These lands were happily chosen. The greater portion lay to the south of a large grove of oak, walnut and hickory timber, about fifteen miles long and six miles wide. A portion of the colony lands were located in the south edge of the timber. To a person reared among the stony hills of Connecticut or Massachusetts, these vast rolling prairies with their rich, black soil, were alike a wonder and an inspiration. A town site was laid out a little to the south of the grove and called Wethersfield. By the forms of the association each share of stock gave the owner the right to select a quarter section (one hundred and sixty acres) of prairie land, a twenty-acre timber lot and a village lot, which contained two and one-half acres. A number of other colonists arrived the same year and the season was taken up mainly with the construction of log houses and the raising of small crops to provide for the coming winter. Space forbids any extended account of the privations of these early comers or the growth and final success of the venture. The Catholic scare was purely imaginary, but the results were good for the parties concerned and for the communities planted in the new country. Three other settlements were made in the near vicinity of Wethersfield, one at Andover, by Massachusetts people, one at Geneseo, by New York people and one at Providence, by Rhode Island people.

"Colonel Blish took an active interest in the affairs of the new country and aided and encouraged its development and settlement. He became a large land owner and prospered beyond his most sanguine expectations. In 1853 a railroad was projected which would give connections with Chicago, and into this enterprise he launched with all his accustomed vigor, and in 1855 the railroad was a reality. From this time the real development of the country began. A railroad station was located a little over a half a mile north of the town site of Wethersfield, which was named Kewanee, that meaning in Indian dialect 'prairie hen.' Colonel Blish owned a quarter section of land adjoining the new railroad station, which is now a part of the city of Kewanee, and completely covered with factories and residences. That was east of the original village of Kewanee, while the city has now extended a mile to the west and taken in his old homestead and orchard, which was just at the south edge of the grove. Even the old village of Wethersfield is now putting on city airs, with water works, street lights and trolley cars.

"Colonel Blish was for many years the postmaster in Wethersfield and held the same office in Kewanee until his death, being the first postmaster in both places. For many years after his arrival in Wethersfield, Colonel Blish kept the

only hotel in Wethersfield. The old oval sign stood upon a post, with the words: 'S. Blish. Inn' painted thereon. His house was the stopping place for the stage lines which traversed the country before the advent of railroads.

"The greatest obstacle with which the pioneers had to contend, was the lack of transportation facilities and their great distance from available markets. A limited quantity of wheat was marketed by teams at Peoria, Lacon and other river points, and occasionally at Chicago. The surest source of income was by fattening hogs, butchering and dressing them and hauling the whole carcasses to the river towns and selling them to the packing houses, or by raising cattle and selling them on the hoof to buyers, who took them away in droves to eastern points.

"Soon after the settlers arrived in Wethersfield, they organized a Congregational society. Meetings were held at the houses of the members and Colonel Blish's being the largest was usually used. Colonel Blish was the first chorister, and the music was strictly vocal. Later a bass viol was added. In the fall of 1838 a log schoolhouse was built and this was used for church services for some ten years.

"Colonel Blish was also an extensive stock raiser and took especial pride in his horses. He brought the first Morgan horses to Wethersfield and the effect of his labors is still apparent in the neighborhood. He was an expert horseman and no animal was too wild for him to handle."

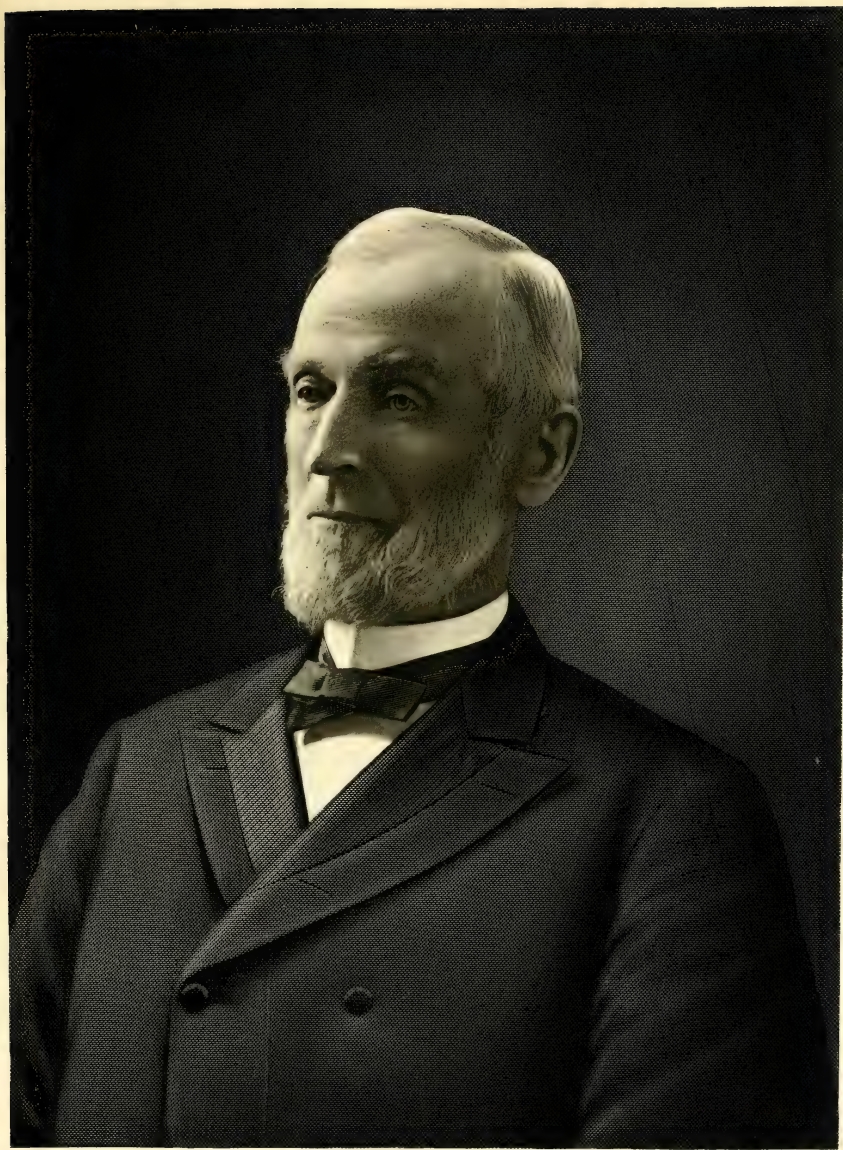
Colonel Blish was married January 1, 1812, at South Manchester, Connecticut, to Rhoda Cheney, who was there born December 5, 1794, and was a daughter of Timothy and Rhoda (Skinner) Cheney. They became parents of five children: William Henry, born May 25, 1812; Thomas, September 18, 1815; Charles Cheney, May 26, 1820; Prudence Hubbard, March 26, 1822; and George Cheney, January 12, 1831. Colonel Blish died October 8, 1855, in the old homestead on the place on which he located on his arrival in Illinois, a new house which he was building, having been almost ready for occupancy. His remains were interred in the old Kewanee cemetery, which he donated to the village when it was first laid out.

His wife was a great reader and always kept well informed on current topics. Financially independent after her husband's death, she took great pleasure in helping others. Patient, loving and cheerful, the close of her life was like a beautiful sunset. She died January 9, 1878, in her eighty-fourth year, and her grave was made by that of her husband.

---

### NATHANIEL BARTLETT GOULD.

The name of Nathaniel Bartlett Gould is on the roll of Henry county's honored dead by reason of the work which he did while an active factor in the life of Cambridge and this section of the state. He gave ample evidence of his public-spirited citizenship in his service as mayor of the city and of his humanitarian principles in his broad philanthropy and liberal charity. A native of Vermont, he was born March 31, 1827, his parents being Amos and Nancy H. (Bartlett)



*N.B. Gould*



Gould, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. His paternal grandfather, Amos Gould, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, enlisting for three months, and was stationed on Manhattan Island at the time that Benedict Arnold deserted the American camp, being situated about a mile from where Major Andre, the British spy, was captured with the dispatches that Arnold had given him, making the one a traitor to his country and the other a victim of his loyalty to his native land. The maternal grandfather, Nathaniel Bartlett, was also in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary war and was in service under General Arnold in the disastrous campaign through the almost impassable woods of northern Maine. Their destination was Quebec, Canada, but they advanced no farther than St. John's, arriving there in terrible condition on account of the hardships which they had endured in traveling through the wilderness. The children of Amos H. and Nancy (Bartlett) Gould were ten in number, six sons and four daughters, of whom five are now living; Judge J. M. Gould, of Moline, Illinois; Lyfe Y., a resident of Cambridge; Amos, who makes his home in Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Nancy J., the widow of John Dean, of Mitchell, South-Dakota; and Susan H., the widow of B. H. Burrows, of Andover township, this county.

Nathaniel B. Gould was reared in New England and having arrived at years of maturity was married November 24, 1859, to Miss Mary J. Jennings, a daughter of Levi and Susan H. (Shepard) Jennings. The latter was born on the day her father returned from the war of 1812. The birth of Mrs. Gould occurred in Peoria county, Illinois, November 14, 1838. Her parents were natives of Ohio and were married there. Her paternal grandfather was a resident of Salem, Ohio, and of Quaker-English stock. He followed the occupation of farming as a life work and thus provided for his family. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Anna Jennings, lived to an advanced age. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Gould were John and Elizabeth (Van Meter) Shepard, natives of Virginia. They were slaveowners of that state and although they set their colored people free the negroes all remained with them after obtaining their freedom, a fact which indicates that they were most kindly and considerate in the treatment of the members of the dark race who were once their property. Mr. and Mrs. Shepard removed to Columbus, Ohio, where the death of the latter occurred, after which Mr. Shepard came to Illinois, settling in Danville. There he married again. He had six children by his first marriage and two by the second. Mrs. Gould became the mother of two daughters: Nellie L., who was born October 20, 1863, and died at the age of fifteen years; and Katharine M., who was born November 29, 1865, and became the wife of W. F. Hayes, by whom she had one daughter, Katharine Gould Hayes. Mr. and Mrs. Gould also reared a niece, Daisy M., a daughter of Daniel Gould, who became as a daughter in their household, and afterward married Edward L. Torbert, now a resident of Syracuse, New York.

The death of Nathaniel B. Gould occurred August 27, 1907, when he had reached the age of seventy-nine years and five months. His was a long, useful and active life, crowned with honors and success. He was regarded as one of the political leaders of this part of the state and took an active and helpful interest in many measures relative to the public welfare. He gave unfaltering sup-

port to the republican party, believing that its principles were most conducive to good government and keeping at all times well informed on the vital questions and issues of the day. For a number of years he filled the position of chief executive of Cambridge and his service as mayor was of a businesslike character, in which needed reform and improvement played an important part. When his salary as mayor was given him it was immediately turned over to some poor widow or person in need and thus his official life proved a dual blessing to the community, to the city which benefited by his practical efforts in its behalf and to the one who was the recipient of his bounty. He served in the office of supervisor for a quarter of a century and for many years was a member of the school board, discharging every official duty with singleness of purpose, actuated at all times by his devotion to the general good. He had the respect and trust of even his political opponents and throughout the entire community was recognized as a man whom to know was to esteem and honor. His philanthropy was one of his strongest characteristics. He could never listen unmoved to any tale of sorrow or distress and his benevolent spirit found expression in generous assistance to the poor. In his business relations he was prominent as the president of the First National Bank of Cambridge from its organization until his death. Mrs. Gould still survives her husband and makes her home in Cambridge. She was reared in the Episcopal church, which she still attends, and is a lady whose many splendid traits of character have endeared her to all with whom she has been brought in contact.

---

#### WILLIAM HENRY LYMAN.

William Henry Lyman, who is now at the head of an extensive and important mercantile enterprise as the senior partner of the Lyman-Lay Company of Kewanee, has long been numbered among the city's most enterprising and prominent residents. His birth occurred at Whiteriver Junction, Vermont, on the 3d of June, 1852, his parents being George and Minerva (Briggs) Lyman. The father was actively and successfully identified with general merchandising for many years and likewise served as postmaster from 1861 until 1878, at Whiteriver Junction, Vermont.

William Henry Lyman obtained his early education in the public schools of his native state and afterward spent two years in a select private school at Norwich, Vermont, while subsequently he received special instruction under the preceptorship of Hiram Orcutt. Under the direction of his father he early became familiar with the business of merchandising and when he came to Kewanee, Illinois, in September, 1869, he entered the department store of Lyman & Lay, of which his brother Elias was the senior partner. In 1874 he was admitted to a partnership and the style of the firm was changed to Lyman, Lay & Lyman, which was maintained until 1883, when Elias Lyman retired and the concern adopted the name of Lay & Lyman. Since 1905 the enterprise has been conducted under the name of the Lyman-Lay Company and the business has continually grown until it is now one of extensive and

profitable proportions. In 1890 Mr. Lyman assisted in the organization of the Boss Manufacturing Company and has since acted as its president. He has likewise served as the vice president of the Union National bank since its organization and since 1904 has been the chief executive officer of the Galesburg Kewanee Electric Railway Company. The latter corporation was incorporated on the 9th of May, 1902, and began operating its lines on the 22d of August, 1903, while on the 6th of December, 1906, its interurban system was extended to Galva. Mr. Lyman became a director of the company in December, 1903, and since 1904 has been its president. His connection with any undertaking insures a prosperous outcome of the same, for it is in his nature to carry forward to successful completion whatever he is associated with. He has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, and in his dealings is known for his prompt and honorable methods, which have won him the deserved and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen.

On the 19th of June, 1877, Mr. Lyman was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Webb Stevens, a resident of Kewanee and a daughter of William W. Stevens, who is a retired agriculturist. Mr. and Mrs. Lyman have a son, William Henry, Jr., who was educated in the Kewanee high school and is now associated with his father in business.

Mr. Lyman gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is a most loyal, public-spirited citizen whose aid and cooperation can ever be counted upon to further any movement or measure instituted to promote the general welfare. He was on the village board of trustees for four years and for two years of that time served as its president. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, of which he is a trustee and in the work of which he is actively and helpfully interested, having served as a Sunday-school teacher for a number of years. He belongs to the Merchants and Commercial Club and also the Kewanee Club. The salient qualities of his life have ever commended him to the confidence, good will and friendship of those with whom he has come in contact and he has always enjoyed the warm regard of a host of friends.

---

#### GEORGE JACOB HORNECKER.

George Jacob Hornecker, who since 1901 has lived retired in Geneseo, was formerly actively and successfully identified with agricultural interests in this county for many years. His birth occurred in Germany on the 30th of September, 1838, his parents being G. J. and Christine (Weise) Hornecker, both of whom were also natives of the fatherland, the former born in 1808 and the latter in 1811. In 1854 they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up their abode in Quincy, Adams county, Illinois, where the father followed farming for ten years. On the expiration of that period, in 1864, he came to Osco township, Henry county, here remaining until called to his final rest in 1884. His wife passed away in 1882, and both lie buried in Morris-town. Unto them were born eight children, four of whom still survive, namely:

G. J., of this review; Fred, a resident of Wichita, Kansas; Caroline, the wife of Jacob Ernst, of California; and Martin, living in Cambridge, Illinois.

G. J. Hornecker, who obtained his education in the schools of his native land, was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-six years of age and then started out in life as an agriculturist on his own account, being first engaged in the operation of rented land for a few years. In 1872 he bought a tract of land in Western township and four or five years later took up his abode on a farm of two hundred and forty acres which he had purchased in Osco township and which still remains in his possession. He placed many substantial improvement on the property and brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, successfully carrying on his farming interests until 1901, since which time he has lived retired at Geneseo.

On the 22d of February, 1865, Mr. Hornecker was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Ernst, whose birth occurred in Germany in 1849, her parents being Jacob and Catherine Ernst, also natives of that country. They came to the United States about the year 1862, locating in Henry county, Illinois, where their remaining days were spent. They reared a family of seven children, four of whom are yet living, as follows: George, a resident of Geneseo; and Martin, William and John, all of whom make their home in California.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hornecker were born nine children, seven of whom still survive. Catherine, the eldest, gave her hand in marriage to Lewis Koch in 1889 and remained a resident of Osco township until she passed away on the 7th of September, 1897, when twenty-eight years of age. She was the mother of two children, namely: Alfred H., now sixteen years of age; and Laura Catherine, born September 4, 1897, who lives with her grandfather, Mr. Hornecker of this review. Emma, residing in Osco township, is the wife of Lewis Blank, by whom she has the following children: Freda, Clyde D., Violet, Viola and Lee. Edward H., who lives on his father's farm in Osco township, wedded Miss Theresa Hamann and has three children: George H., Lydia Ida and Earl E. George, a resident of Geneseo, married Miss Clara Willie, by whom he has five children: Laura, Martin, Robert, Rhinehart and George. Ida, who makes her home in Cambridge, is the wife of Frank Hadley and the mother of two children—Mildred and Gilbert. William, a resident of Geneseo, married Miss Molly Pinks and has one child, Helen. Rose makes her home with her father in Geneseo. Frank, who wedded Miss Bessie Rubeck, is likewise a resident of Geneseo. Mrs. Catherine (Ernst) Hornecker was called to the home beyond on the 2d day of July, 1899, when fifty years of age, passing away in the faith of the Lutheran church. She was a gentle, kindly woman and her demise was deeply mourned by all who knew her.

Politically Mr. Hornecker is a stalwart advocate of the democracy but has no desire for the honors nor emoluments of office. He was at one time elected road supervisor but declined to serve. Religiously he is a valued and faithful member of the German Lutheran church and has held various official positions therein. He deserves much credit for the success he has achieved and his life is an excellent illustration of what may be accomplished through determination and energy. Having been a resident of this county for forty-five years, he

has a wide and favorable acquaintance within its borders, and in the successful conduct of his agricultural interests has gained a measure of prosperity that now enables him to spend his remaining days in well earned ease.

---

### ANDREW LONG.

Andrew Long, carrying on general farming and stock raising on section 7, Osco township, is the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of two hundred and twenty-four acres. He was born in Edford township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 19th of April, 1859, his parents being Michael and Anna B. (Reisick) Long. The father was a native of Bavaria, Germany, and in early manhood served his country as a soldier. Following his marriage he set sail for the United States and, after landing on the shores of the new world, came direct to Illinois, making his home for a time about twenty miles from Chicago. Subsequently he secured employment with the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, working in the vicinity of Moline. Coming to Henry county in January, 1859, he was engaged in the operation of a rented farm in Edford township for two years, on the expiration of which period he took up his abode on a farm near Morristown, while later he located in Munson township. After being identified with general agricultural pursuits as a renter for seven years, he bought eighty acres of the farm which is now in possession of our subject, paying eighteen or nineteen hundred dollars for the property. As time passed by and his financial resources increased, owing to his well directed industry and capable management, he extended the boundaries of his place by additional purchase, buying ninety-five acres at thirty-five dollars per acre in the year 1878, while later he purchased forty acres more at fifty dollars an acre. He placed many substantial improvement on the property and brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, annually gathering rich harvests, which found a ready and profitable sale on the market. He passed away on this farm on the 2d of October, 1884, when about sixty-six years of age, and his demise was deeply mourned by all who knew him, for his life had ever been upright and honorable in all relations. He was reared in the Catholic faith and assisted in the erection of a church of that denomination at Geneseo. His political allegiance was unswervingly given to the men and measures of the democracy, but he did not desire office as a reward for his party fealty. His widow still survives at the age of seventy-six years. Their children were four in number, namely: Theresa, who passed away at the age of four years; one who died in infancy; Sophia, the wife of James Kerwin, of Osco township; and Andrew, of this review.

The last named attended the common schools in his youthful days and at an early age became familiar with the various duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, for his father was in poor health and therefore much of the work of the home farm devolved upon him. In 1885 he purchased one hundred and ten acres of land where his sister Sophia, now resides, paying sixty-five dollars an acre. In 1899 he bought eighty acres more at seventy-two dollars

an acre, disposing of half of the tract to his brother-in-law, James Kerwin. At the present time he owns two hundred and twenty-four acres in one farm on section 7, Osco township, and in addition to cultivating the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate, is engaged in the raising, feeding and shipping of stock. He has remodeled the residence and erected two barns, and the farm is likewise equipped with corn cribs, a scale house, wells, windmills, etc. As the years have passed he has prospered in his undertakings and is now widely recognized as one of the substantial, progressive and enterprising residents of his native county.

On the 25th of February, 1892, in Western township, Mr. Long was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary A. Keleher, a native of that township and a daughter of Daniel and Ellen (Curriu) Keleher. By this union there are four children, as follows: Daniel M., who was born April 22, 1893; John A., whose natal day was March 6, 1895; Irene, born April 25, 1897; and Leo Lawrence, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 24th of July, 1900.

In 1880 and 1884 Mr. Long supported the democratic nominees for the presidency but has since voted independently, casting his ballot in support of the candidates whom he believes best qualified, regardless of party affiliation. He was a candidate for school trustee and missed election by only three or four votes. For a long period, however, he has served as a school director and the cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion. In 1909, in association with others, he circulated a petition for the erection of a township high school and it was signed by all the districts in the township except two. He has always taken an active and leading part in all matters pertaining to public improvement and when telephone development was suggested he became one of the warmest advocates of the project, as well as of the rural free delivery of mail. Both of these matters were discussed in the Farmers' Social Club, of which he is a prominent member. Mr. and Mrs. Long have an extensive circle of friends throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended to them.

---

#### LAWRENCE C. WARNER.

Lawrence C. Warner, well known in business circles of Western township as president of the Warner Elevator Manufacturing Company and the owner of three hundred acres of valuable land, was born on the old Warner homestead in this township on the 27th of February, 1861, a son of Wilder W. and Olive (Washburn) Warner. The father, a native of Massachusetts, was there reared and educated, receiving a good education in the common schools of that state. He came west to Illinois in 1849 and for a time was engaged in teaching school in Rock Island, Illinois, then known as Stephenson, and later in Andover, Henry county. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, which formed a nucleus of his later extensive possessions, paying seventy-five cents per acre for this tract. He was here married to Olive Washburn, also a native of the Old Bay state, who came to Henry

county with her parents in 1835, when about four years of age. She was a daughter of Nathan W. and Elizabeth (Sheldon) Warner, who upon their arrival in this county took up their abode in Colona township. Here she received a good education in the common schools of Rock Island and also became a pupil in Old Oxford, a select school in Clover township. She was united in marriage to Mr. Warner about 1853 and they took up their abode upon the farm which he had purchased in Western township. He later added to his possessions, until he became the owner of seven hundred acres in this and Colona township. He took an active part in bringing the railroad to this section of the county, the road passing through his land, upon which was established the station known as Warner's Station. Here he erected an elevator and began buying and selling grain. Previous to this he had been engaged extensively in feeding and shipping cattle and had been very successful in his undertaking. He became well known in local republican circles, being elected to fill various offices such as assessor and collector, and for several years served as justice of the peace and also as supervisor of Western township. He also represented his district in the state legislature in 1871-72. He was one of the early members of Mount Pleasant Baptist church, which was organized in the home of his maternal grandfather, Nathan W. Washburn. The congregation afterward moved to Orion and a branch was established at Warner's Station in 1893. In 1896 he built himself a handsome mansion on the old homestead but lived but a few years to enjoy it, passing away on the 31st of January, 1898, his remains being interred in Western cemetery.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Wilder W. Warner were six children, namely: Wilder W., the eldest, married Ella Lockwood and has two children. He now makes his home in Sedalia, Missouri. Mary E. resides at home with her mother, Wilmot S., who married Fannie Wood, resides in Geneseo and is associated with our subject in the manufacturing business as secretary and treasurer of the company. He has two children. Lawrence C., of this review, is the next in order of birth. Frank C., who married Harriet Sanford, by whom he has four children, makes his home in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he is treasurer of the Great Western Printing Company. Alice M. became the wife of Clarence M. Bills and makes her home in Geneseo, where Mr. Bills is engaged in the real estate business. She is the mother of three children.

No event of special importance came to vary the routine of daily life for Lawrence C. Warner during the period of his boyhood and youth, which were spent on the home farm. He attended the district schools during the winter months, acquiring a good knowledge of the various phases of the English language. He remained with his father, assisting him in his different business enterprises, until the death of the latter, after which he and W. J. Blodget acted as administrators of the estate. Mr. Warner took, along with other property, his father's elevator and store, which he later sold in 1902. In 1903 they organized the Warner Elevator Manufacturing Company and began the manufacture of portable elevators for farm use. In 1905 they extended their business to include the manufacture of gasoline engines, also for farm use, and today they have one of the largest manufacturing industries in the county. They have worked up an extensive trade, shipping their product to all of the greatest grain

producing states of the union and also to Canada. Mr. Warner has been president of the company since its inception, and as its head has directed his efforts toward the further upbuilding and growth of the business, the gratifying proportions which it has already assumed being due in no small measure to his excellent administrative ability and executive control.

It was on the 23d of June, 1891, in Western township, that Mr. Warner was united in marriage to Miss Isabelle Carson, a native of Yonkers City, New York, and a daughter of David and Jean (McGee) Carson. The parents came to Henry county in 1861, the father now making his home in Western township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner has been born one daughter, Inez Jean, who is now in her sophomore year in Rock Island high school. The entire family are members of the Baptist church, in which Mr. Warner is serving as a trustee. He is stalwart in his support of the republican party, and, like his father, has never sought nor desired public office as the reward for party fealty, although he has been called upon to serve as justice of the peace and also as a member of the school board. Fraternally he holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Colona, having filled all of the chairs therein and having been sent as a delegate to the state lodge. His interests in public affairs is deep and sincere and is manifest in the substantial cooperation which he has given to plans and measures for the public good. He stands as an excellent representative of the business life of the times, alert and enterprising, watchful of opportunities and recognizing and improving advantages as they come.

---

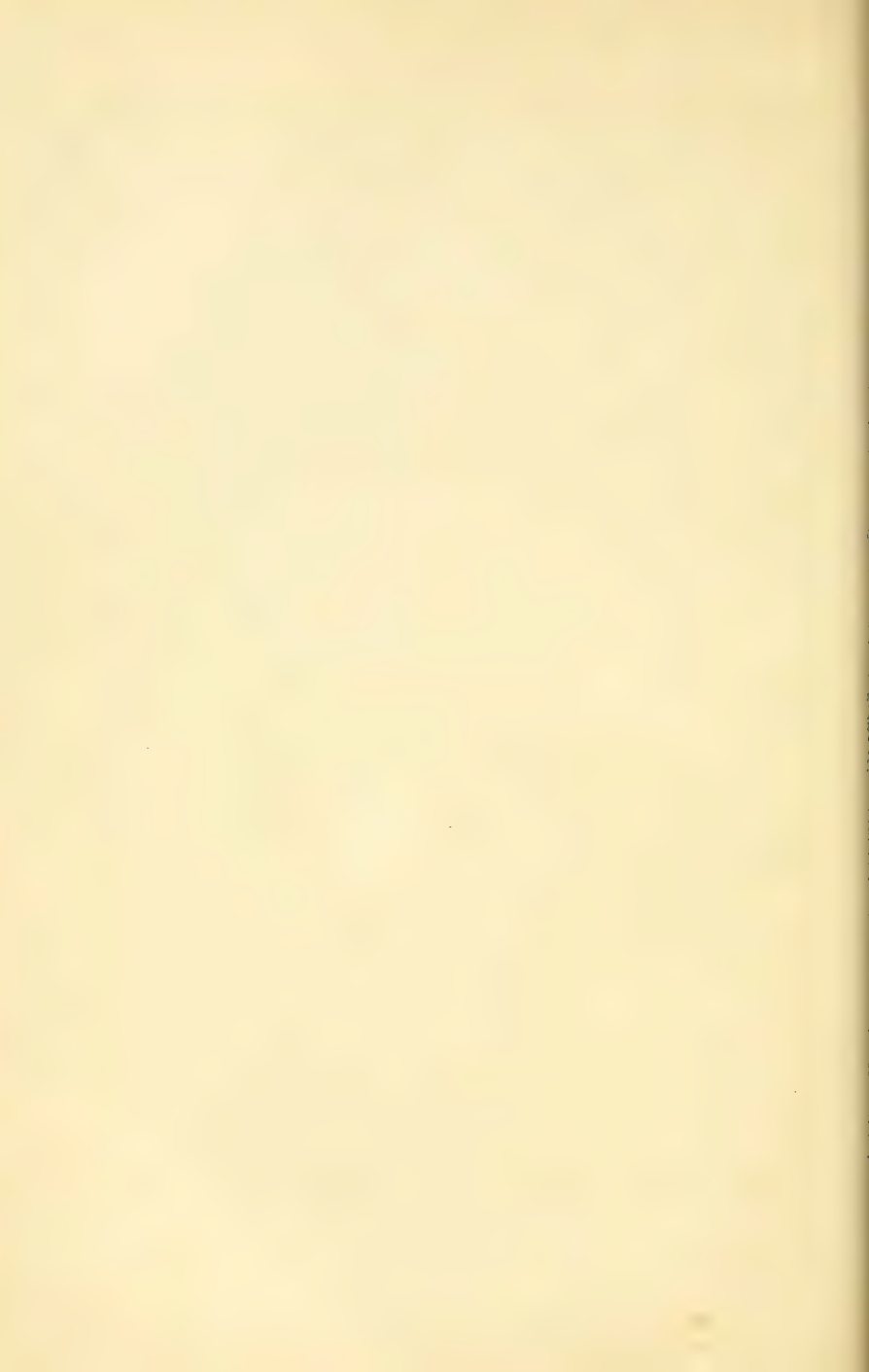
### ELIAS LYMAN.

The life record of Elias Lyman covered seventy-three years, and there stood conspicuously forth in his history those traits of honorable, upright manhood, of business sagacity and commercial enterprise which ever awaken respect and regard. Kewanee numbered him among her citizens for more than forty years and profited in large measure by his efforts in her behalf. He was one of New England's contributions to the citizenship of Illinois. His birth occurred in Roy-alton, Windsor county, Vermont, January 5, 1831, and in the Green Mountain state his early life was passed. In his youth he embraced the opportunities offered by the public schools near his home and later spent some time as a pupil in the military academy. His father, removing to White River Junction, Vermont, there established a mercantile store, in which the son received his initial business training, becoming his father's assistant. Afterward he was employed in a store owned by his grandfather Briggs at Rochester, Vermont, and it was while residing in that place that Mr. Lyman formed the acquaintance of and wedded Miss Adelaide Trask, their marriage being celebrated on the 14th of December, 1858.

Largely through the influence of his friend, Mr. Willard, of Galesburg, Illinois, Mr. Lyman determined to locate in the middle west and in February, 1862, established his home in Kewanee. He had little idea of locating here when he paid his first visit to the small prairie town, but finding the outlook for trade



*Elias Lyman.*



bright, he determined to establish his permanent residence here. Forming a partnership with W. C. Willard of Galesburg, the pioneer store of Kewanee was purchased and the business conducted under the firm style of Willard & Lyman, the store being located on Main street. At length Mr. Willard disposed of his interest to Henry R. Trask, under the firm name of Lyman & Trask, and the business was thus carried on for about two years. Mr. Lyman then became sole proprietor by the purchase of his partner's interest and was conducting the business alone when his store was destroyed by fire June 6, 1866. His building and stock were covered to the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, and with this and other resources which he was able to obtain, Mr. Lyman at once opened another store so that there was but a brief lapse between the time of the fire and the period in which he reentered commercial circles in Kewanee. About 1868 he admitted H. T. Lay to a partnership and the firm of Lyman & Lay was then organized. In 1874 W. H. Lyman, the brother of our subject, also became a partner to the firm and the style of Lyman, Lay & Lyman was assumed. A business of extensive proportions was developed until the firm name became a familiar one throughout all this part of the state. When Elias Lyman disposed of his interest to his partners in 1883 the firm name of Lay & Lyman was assumed and Mr. Lyman remained an active factor in the management and control of the business until 1883, when he retired. He was a successful business man, well known as a careful buyer, whose keen insight and business acumen constituted effective and valuable forces in the prosperous management of the institution which he built up. His commercial integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career and his ability to coordinate forces into a harmonious whole was one of the salient features in his career.

Following his retirement from the field of merchandising Mr. Lyman gave much of his time until recent years to the purchase and care of real estate, horses and stock, and to the breeding and raising of high grade horses. He was the owner of very fine stock farms, well equipped and particularly adapted to the business. At various times he owned a number of finely bred trotting and pacing horses, with which he made the circuits, but in later years he lived in quiet retirement, relinquishing business cares of all kinds. His unfaltering energy and powers of organization, however, were utilized in the establishment of many institutions of Kewanee that were all of importance in the upbuilding and business development of the city. He was one of the inaugurators of the First National Bank and acted as its president from its inception in November, 1870, until 1874. The record book of the bank, purchased by him, as indicated on the first page, was still in use at the time of his demise. He had great faith in Kewanee real estate and owned many pieces of valuable property in and near the city. Although he frequently purchased he rarely sold the property which he acquired and at the time of his death owned a number of valuable farms, his possessions aggregating sixteen hundred acres. These and other investments made him one of the wealthiest men of his section of the state.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lyman were born two daughters, one of whom, Lillie Louise, became the wife of Charles I. Pierce, of Kewanee and Chicago, and died June 17, 1901, leaving two children, Katharine Louise and Adelaide Lyman Pierce. The other daughter, Nellie, became the wife of Frederick A. Smith, of

Rockford, and they have two daughters, Helen Lyman and Louise Lyman Smith. Mr. Lyman was most devoted to his family and it was his earnest purpose to provide for them in such manner that his wife and children should lack nothing needed for their happiness. As they went to him with their plans and projects he was ever an interested listener, ready to cooperate in every way.

Mr. Lyman had no political aspirations but was a strong republican and could have filled various political positions had he not resolutely refused to do so. He was at one time a member of the Odd Fellows Society but was not affiliated with the organization at the time of his demise. His generous spirit and humanitarianism found expression in substantial gifts to charity and to benevolent enterprises and one of his most recent benefactions was the gift of the site of the fine hospital building to the Sisters of St. Francis. Death came to Mr. Lyman suddenly, although his health had not been good for more than a year. He passed away at the age of seventy-three years on the 15th of December, 1894, and he was sorely missed in the community where he had long lived and was uniformly honored. Kewanee owes much to his efforts in her behalf. In all movements to help the city, in all attempts to improve Kewanee during the years of his business activity Mr. Lyman could be depended upon to be among the foremost. For years it was the custom of those undertaking to promote any public project to secure his name as the first signature to the subscription paper. He gave a fair hearing to every call upon him, and if his judgment sanctioned it his financial response was a most liberal one. He gave generously to the support of various religious denominations although not a member of any church. He regularly attended the services of the First Congregational church during many years and for a long time served on its board of trustees. He felt in his last years his enforced absence from the services of the church and expressed his regret at this on various occasions. His life in all of its business and social relations was the expression of high and noble purposes and of kindly spirit, and his recognition and observance of the rights of others was one of his strongly marked characteristics.

---

#### GEORGE D. PALMER.

George D. Palmer is well known in the financial circles of Galva not only as the organizer of the Galva State bank but also as the cashier of that institution, which responsible position he has held since its inception. He was born in Otsego county, New York, on the 6th of July, 1853, a son of Dudley W. and Laura L. (Bard) Palmer, both natives of the Empire state. The paternal grandfather, Nathan S. Palmer, a farmer by occupation, was born in New York and came to Illinois in 1858, locating in Galva township, where his death occurred when he had reached the seventy-seventh year of his life. His wife was Eliza (Smith) Palmer, whose parents moved from Connecticut to New York at an early day. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan S. Palmer consisted of three children, Louise, Dudley W. and Christopher C. Dudley W. Palmer, the father of our subject, followed the wagonmaker's and machinist's trade in New York but after coming to Illinois in 1858, purchased a farm of sixty

acres in Galva township, to which he later added fifteen acres, and he devoted his remaining days to the occupation of farming. He married Laura L. Bard, a daughter of Wilson and Lucina Bard, both natives of New York, the former coming from English ancestry. Her mother passed away at Paris Hill near Litchfield, New York, and after her death the father, who followed agricultural pursuits, came west, taking up his abode in Hastings, Nebraska, where he passed away after reaching the eightieth milestone on life's journey. He and his wife were the parents of three children, Lucinda, Laura L. and John A. The family of Dudley W. Palmer and his wife consisted of four children, two sons and two daughters, as follows: Louise E., the widow of Alvin G. Bruce, who served in the Civil war as a soldier in Company G, One Hundredth and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; George D., of this review; William H., of Galesburg, Illinois; and Delia M., the wife of C. D. Palmer, of Sterling, Colorado. The father passed away in 1867 when forty-three years of age, while his wife still survives and makes her home with her daughter in Sterling, Colorado. The entire family were members of the Baptist church.

George D. Palmer, whose name introduces this review, was not yet five years old when he came with his parents to Galva township, where upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood. In the district schools he acquired his early education and he supplemented this training by a course of study in the Galva high school. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, and in the meantime he assisted his mother in the operation of the home farm, thus becoming familiar with all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He started out in business on his own account as a farmer and continued in this line of activity until 1881, when, selling his property, he removed to Galva where he became identified with the grocery business in partnership with John A. Regnall. This relationship continued for two years and then his father-in-law, Joseph A. Walker, purchased the interest of Mr. Regnall and the firm became known as Palmer & Walker. In 1887 another partner was admitted and the firm was changed to Palmer, Walker & Johnson, while the business was extended to include a hardware department. In 1891 the original partners bought out Mr. Johnson and the firm again became Palmer & Walker, being thus continued until 1893, when both members sold out and the partnership was consequently dissolved.

In 1895 Mr. Palmer organized the Galva State bank, which was opened for business in November of that year, with the following officers: president, O. P. Stoddard; vice president, Dyer Ford; cashier, George D. Palmer; assistant cashier, B. S. Peck. In 1909 Dyer Ford was elected to the presidency of the bank and R. F. Beals became vice president in his stead. The directors are now Dyer Ford, George D. Palmer, L. F. Matteson, F. A. Hurlbutt, R. F. Beals, James Riner and B. S. Peck. For fifteen years Mr. Palmer has held the position of cashier and during that time his labors have been potent elements in the success of the institution, which is one of the strong financial concerns of Galva township. The patrons of the bank find him courteous and approachable at all times and these characteristics make him popular with all who have any business with the bank, while his business ability and keen discernment make him a most valuable officer.

It was on the 6th of November, 1875, that Mr. Palmer was united in marriage to Miss May L. Walker, a daughter of Joseph A. and Angeline (Tilton) Walker, and a native of Wethersfield township, Henry county, Illinois. Her parents, who were born in West Virginia, were among the early settlers of this county, where the father passed away in 1903, while the mother's death occurred in 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer became the parents of five children, namely: Rena May, a milliner of Aledo, Illinois; Ray Dean, the assistant postmaster of Galva, who married Miss Pearl Hartsell of Monmouth, by whom he has one daughter, Irma May; Angie L.; Dorothy D. and Howard W., still at home. Mr. Palmer and his wife are members of the First Baptist church of Galva, of which he is chairman of the board of trustees.

Mr. Palmer is a prominent figure in fraternal circles, holding membership in Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., while he also belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F., and to Galva Encampment, No. 174. He likewise is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Palmer has cast his ballot for the republican party and has ever been an active figure in local party ranks. He served for three terms as supervisor and ten years later was reelected to that office, which position he is now filling. He is president of the Galva Fire Department, No. 1, and is preeminently public-spirited in his citizenship, his influence at all times being upon the side of improvement, progress and advancement. In business life he has made an excellent official, while in the various relations of life in which he has been found he has shown himself fully worthy the confidence and trust which are uniformly given him.

---

### GEORGE W. HUTCHINSON.

George W. Hutchinson came to Henry county in 1869 and started in business for himself as a renter. Today he is the owner of twenty-five hundred acres of land and is numbered among the most progressive, prominent and prosperous farmers and stockmen of Cambridge and this section of the state. There has been no esoteric phase in his career, his success being won through earnest, honest effort and close application. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born at Phoenixville, June 22, 1856, and is a son of Robert and Jane (Livingston) Hutchinson. His paternal grandparents were natives of Ireland and were of Scotch lineage and of the Presbyterian faith. The grandfather was a farmer by occupation and became well-to-do. Both he and his wife died in Scotland, the latter reaching a very advanced age. They reared a large family, five of whom—four sons and a daughter—came to America, while two of the number are now living, Mrs. Elizabeth Finley and Robert, both of whom are residents of Geneseo. Two of their brothers were soldiers of the Civil war: Samuel, who was killed in battle, and William, who was starved to death in Libby prison. The maternal grandfather of George W. Hutchinson was George Livingston, who came from Ireland, his native country, and settled in Pennsylvania, where

he lived with one of his daughters. They afterward became pioneer residents of Henry county, Illinois. His wife had died in the Emerald isle, and Mr. Livingston lived for only a short time after coming to Henry county, dying as the result of paralysis, while sitting in a chair.

Robert Hutchinson, the father of our subject, was born near Colerain, in the north of Ireland, and when sixteen years of age came to America. He was employed for a time as boss of the iron blast furnaces at Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, and in 1869 he came to Illinois, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, lying in Munson township, Henry county. This he improved, and his farming interests were so wisely and carefully conducted that he won substantial success, enabling him to add to his original holdings until his landed possessions at one time aggregated four hundred and forty acres. For the past eight years he has lived retired in Geneseo. His wife died in Munson township in 1884 at the age of forty-seven years, while Mr. Hutchinson is still living at the age of seventy-seven years. Their family numbered six sons and two daughters, namely: William H., deceased; George W.; Samuel C.; Robert E.; Ida M., residing with her father in Geneseo; Hugh, of Munson township; Jennie, the wife of John Douglas, of Munson township, and Howard.

George W. Hutchinson spent the first thirteen years of his life in the Keystone state and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Henry county, Illinois, where he was reared to manhood upon his father's farm. He had attended the public schools of Pennsylvania, and his education was continued in the district schools of this county. The periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the fields and he continued to assist in the operation of the old home place until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life on his own account. For several years he rented land but during that period carefully saved his earnings until his capital justified his investment in eighty acres of land in Munson township. He at once located upon that farm and after a few years purchased one hundred and sixty-six acres more. Later he added two hundred and eighty-three acres, subsequently bought eighty acres in Cambridge township, then one hundred and fifteen acres, ninety-five acres adjoining the corporation limits of Cambridge, also eighty acres adjoining the village and one hundred and four acres in Cambridge township. Thus as a result of his different investments he became the owner of over one thousand acres in this county. There is no finer farming land to be found in all of the country, and Mr. Hutchinson's different farms are valuable property from which he derives a very substantial and gratifying annual income. He also turned his attention to Texas as a place of investment and is now the owner of thirteen hundred acres in Lipscomb county and six hundred and fifty acres in Randall county, Texas. His landed possessions therefore aggregate over twenty-five hundred acres, making him one of the most extensive property holders in central Illinois. He likewise is building a new home in Cambridge, and his success indicates clearly the business ability which he has displayed. He is financially interested in the Farmers National Bank of Cambridge, in which he holds the office of vice president.

On the 15th of March, 1882, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hutchinson and Miss Justina C. Nelson, a native of Munson township, this county, and a daughter of Charles and Hannah (Armstrong) Nelson. Her father was a na-

tive of Sweden and her mother, of the state of New York, and they became early settlers in this county, being closely identified with its agricultural development for many years. The father died in 1900 at the age of seventy-two, while the mother passed away in January, 1903, at the age of seventy years. They were the parents of five children, three daughters and two sons, as follows: Justina C.; Etta I.; the wife of Sherman L. Rishel; Marian M., who married J. M. Anderson; William C.; and Frederick J.

Politically Mr. Hutchinson is a republican, giving unfaltering support to the party. For eight years he was a member of the town board and has held various other positions, the duties of which he has discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He was secretary of the fair association for two years and has labored to stimulate the interest of his fellowmen in all that tends to promote progress in agricultural and other lines. Fraternally he is connected with Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His record has been characterized by steady progress resulting from the wise and intelligent utilization of every opportunity that has come to him. In all of his work he has been prompted by a laudable ambition yet has never sacrificed the interests of others to his own ends, his record at all times being creditable and satisfactory.

---

#### MRS. ELIZA ANN CONE.

Mrs. Eliza Ann Cone, who passed away in June, 1908, was one of the little colony of people who founded the town of Geneseo in 1836 and was a prominent factor in its development and upbuilding along moral and educational lines. She was born in Bloomfield, New York, on the 18th of April, 1810, a daughter of Joseph and Cynthia Hill, who had come to the Empire state from New England. When sixteen years of age Eliza Ann Hill gave her hand in marriage to Elisha Cone and their union proved a most congenial and happy one. The young couple began their domestic life in Victor, New York, where their first child, Harriet, was born, and soon afterward removed to Le Roy, at which place the birth of their second daughter, Clara, occurred. Mrs. Cone was converted when eighteen years of age, embracing the Congregational faith, while later, in the year 1836, her husband also identified himself with that church. They then began to take a very active interest in religion and aided in the formation of a colony to be located in the "far west" for the purpose of establishing religious and educational institutions.

The charter members of this colony convened at the home of Mrs. Cone, where they planned to organize and go west as a church of the Congregational denomination. They were thirteen in number and the little band gathered at the stone church in Bergen, where they were organized into a church by the ecclesiastical council, Mr. Cone being ordained as the first deacon. A few days afterward, on the 19th of September, 1836, the little company of men with their wives and children, numbering altogether about forty persons, started overland for their new home. They located on the site of the present city

of Geneseo, which was named in honor of Genesee county, New York, the place from which they had emigrated. The first house—a log structure— was built by Mr. Cone on the south side of the present park and was occupied by three families. During the winter of 1837 religious services were also conducted there. The following summer a tent was erected in the park for church and school purposes, and in July, 1855, the corner stone of the present edifice was laid. Mrs. Cone was a prominent, consistent and devoted member of the church and her eldest daughter, Mrs. Harriet T. Miller, is now the only living charter member thereof.

Mr. Cone died at the comparatively early age of forty-three years, leaving a widow and five children to mourn his loss. At the time of the Civil war his two sons went bravely to the defense of the Union and one of them laid down his life on the altar of his country, dying in a hospital at Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. Cone was called to her final rest June 4th, 1908, when she had attained the ripe old age of ninety-eight years. Her long and useful life, consecrated to the service of her Master, was filled with many deeds of loving devotion and self-sacrifice, and her memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew her.

---

#### DANIEL LAVERY.

Daniel Lavery was for many years closely associated with the farming interests of this county but is now living retired in Geneseo. He was born in Ireland, in 1832, a native of County Down, and his parents, Daniel and Esther (Bonn) Lavery, were also natives of the same land. They have both been dead for many years, the father having passed away in 1845, while the mother's death occurred in 1846.

Daniel Lavery is the only survivor in a family of six children. He pursued his education in the schools of his native country and in his boyhood and youth remained on his father's farm, assisting in the cultivation of the fields and also engaging in weaving. He was a young man of twenty-three years when in 1855 he bade good-by to friends and native land, sailing for New York in May. After reaching the shores of America he remained in New York for a time and was employed in a tannery. He afterward came to the middle west and in the vicinity of Decatur, Illinois, worked as a farm hand for another year. He then made a trip to California in 1857, when the Panama railroad was opened up, by way of New Orleans and remained for two years in the Golden state, devoting his time and energies to mining. In 1861 he returned to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farming.

It was in the same year that Mr. Lavery was united in marriage to Miss Mary O'Neil, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1842, a daughter of James and Margaret O'Neil, both of whom were natives of Ireland. They became farming people of Wayne county, Pennsylvania, where they spent their remaining days and at last were called to their final rest. They were the parents of eight children, of whom three are yet living: Thomas, Edward and John, all residents of Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Lavery began their domestic life in the Keystone state and in 1863 removed westward to Henry county, Illinois, settling in Hanna township, where Mr. Lavery at first secured eighty acres of land. He was ambitious to own a larger farm, however, and whenever it was possible he added to the original tract until within the boundaries of his farm were comprised two hundred and eighty acres. Upon this place he remained until 1909 when he removed to Geneseo, retiring from active business life. He purchased a comfortable home in the town and is now pleasantly situated there. His rest is truly earned and richly deserved, for through a long period he diligently tilled the soil and cultivated his crops according to modern progressive methods, having achieved success which was honorably won.

In October, 1906, Mr. Lavery was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who died in Geneseo and was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery for she had long been a faithful communicant of the Catholic church. By her marriage she had become the mother of eleven children of whom eight are now living: James, a resident of Geneseo; Daniel, who lives on the old homestead farm; Cecilia, who is now in a convent of Pennsylvania as a Sister of Charity; Margaret, the wife of James Welch, living near Woodhull; Frank, who resides with his father in Geneseo; Minnie, at home; Charles, who follows farming; and Sadie, who is in a Wisconsin convent.

In his political views Mr. Lavery has always been a stalwart democrat since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He has never been an office seeker but has served as school director. He belongs to the Catholic church. He is entirely a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed, and it has been only through constant energy, perseverance and self-denial that he has worked his way upward, accumulating much of this world's goods, so that now in his declining days he can enjoy all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. In manner he is jovial and genial, pleasant to all, and it is, therefore, a pleasure to meet and converse with Daniel Lavery.

---

#### CHARLES E. McCULLOUGH.

Kewanee lost one of its most honorable and useful citizens in the death of Charles E. McCullough. He was a representative of that group of men whose lives are conspicuous for ability, force of character, integrity and generous aims. Progress and determination might well be termed the keynote of his character, for he always sought advancement for the individual and the community and manifested his public spirit in active and effective cooperation in measures for the general good.

A native of Pennsylvania, Charles E. McCullough was born at Mount Joy on the 20th of May, 1849, his parents being Charles and Martha F. (Eyerhart) McCullough, who were originally from Virginia but resided in Pennsylvania for several years prior to their removal to Illinois. Their son, Charles, acquired his early education in the public schools and afterward attended Mount Morris Academy at Mount Morris, this state. While there he had three classmates whose



L. E. McCueough



warm friendship he retained until his death, Justice Carter and Justice John P. Hand, both of the Illinois supreme court, and H. D. Judson, general superintendent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Following the completion of his literary course Mr. McCullough took up the study of law and was admitted to practice before the Illinois bar, but subsequently turned his attention to the banking business, accepting the cashiership in Barber's Bank at Polo, Illinois. His identification with Kewanee dated from November, 1882, when he came to this city as assistant cashier of the First National Bank. On the resignation of C. S. Wentworth he became cashier of that institution, ably filling the responsible position until he went to McKeesport, Pennsylvania, to accept the proffered position with the National Tube Works Company. There he continued until his return to Kewanee in the early '90s for the purpose of entering the office of the Western Tube Company in this city. His manifest executive ability and keen discrimination led to his selection for the position of treasurer of this company, in which capacity he continued until the 1st of February, 1908, when he retired from active business life. He displayed great aptitude for the financial work in which he was engaged and acquired a reputation as one of the best known credit men in the country. His previous training was such as specially qualified him for the onerous and responsible duties which he discharged so well during his long term of office with this great manufacturing institution. He won early recognition by his business capacity and his eminent trustworthiness and in the promotion of the interests of the Western Tube Company he contributed indirectly in large measure to the upbuilding of Kewanee.

Mr. McCullough was a many-sided man, not only intensely active in business affairs but also deeply engaged in the finest forms of public service, a devout church man and an active member of club and fraternal organizations. He belonged to the First Congregational church and to the Kewanee Club, of which he was president at the time of his death. His retirement from business giving him time and leisure, he manifested much interest in the affairs of the club, giving of his energy and ability to promote its upbuilding. He was also a member of the Kewanee Lodge of Elks and when in Polo, Illinois, was raised to Master Mason in Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 187, F. & A. M. On the 20th of April, 1883, he became affiliated with Kewanee Lodge, No. 159, and was raised to the position of master, holding the office in 1888. He became a member of Kewanee Chapter, No. 47, R. A. M., and was filling the office of treasurer at the time of his death. His name is also on the membership roll of the Kewanee Council, R. & S. M., Kewanee Commandery, No. 71, K. T. and Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He was regarded as one of the leading representatives of Masonry in Kewanee and was honored with various official positions in the different branches of the fraternity. He acted for many years as worthy patron of Harmony Chapter, O. E. S., and was a member of both committees which undertook the work of securing the establishment of a commandery in Kewanee. When the Masonic Building & Aid Association was organized he was named as the representative of Harmony Chapter, was reappointed every year to the time of his death and was treasurer from the time the organization was effected.

On the 28th of December, 1875, Mr. McCullough was united in marriage at Brookville, in Ogle county, to Miss Sarah Garman, and unto them was born a

daughter, Martha Alice, who became the wife of Charles R. Lewis, a native of Chicago, who at that time was residing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mrs. Lewis passed away November 7, 1904, leaving one child, Mary Wakefield Lewis. Mr. McCullough spent his last evening at the Kewanee Club and, returning to his home, had but entered his door when he dropped dead, his death being occasioned by apoplexy. This was on the 23d of April, 1909, so that he had scarcely rounded out his sixtieth year. He was a man in whom both the physical and moral life were intensely vital. It was impossible to be with him half an hour without recognizing his capacity and his moral vigor. He was one of the men whose character gives a ringing response to every test and his was a familiar face in the many places where the most interesting men of Kewanee gathered.

At the time of his passing one of the local papers said: "Charles E. McCullough was a man among men. His best friends were those who knew him best. A trifle reserved many thought, yet no trace of anything but cordiality was evident to all with whom he mingled. He was a man of plain, direct speech and of thought that was never devious. His ideals were high and he sought daily to approach them. He was a man of lofty patriotism and keen sense of duty to his fellowmen. His ability, wide information and his rugged honesty are qualities first to be recalled by those who knew him. His interest in his surroundings was ever deep. In whatever he engaged he went at the matter heart and soul. When he worked he gave his exclusive attention to the affair in hand; when he took his recreation nothing except that which was before him seemed to receive a thought. So he lived and so he died, his faculties alert to the last. He would have had it even so. We can ill afford to lose such a citizen. The years come and go, but they bring none too many like Mr. McCullough. As the sympathy of the community goes out to the bereaved family circle all realize that not alone has the sorrowing home suffered, but the city as well."

---

#### ALBERT AUGUST FUERST.

The agricultural interests of Henry county find an enterprising and progressive representative in Albert August Fuerst, who owns and operates a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres on section 25, Kewanee township. He was born in that township on the 14th of July, 1866, his parents being August and Augusta (Bartz) Fuerst, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this work. Our subject obtained his education in the district school of section 23, Kewanee township, and also pursued a course of study in a German school, learning to read and write that language. After putting aside his text-books he remained on the home farm until the time of his marriage, giving his father the benefit of his services in the cultivation of the fields. For one winter season he was employed at the pumping station of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company and during another winter he worked in the shops of the Plano Machinery Company at Plano, Illinois. Subsequent to his marriage he took up his abode on his present farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres three miles northeast of

Kewanee, which was given to him by his father. The place is known as the old Enslow property. Mr. Fuerst has built an addition to the house, has likewise erected several sheds and has made numerous other improvements until today the place is lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. The land is all under a high state of cultivation and annually yields bounteous harvests as a reward for the care and labor which is bestowed upon it. Mr. Fuerst has the assistance of but one hired man in the active work of the farm and the success which has crowned his labors is directly attributable to his untiring energy and capable management.

On the 10th of March, 1892, in Kewanee township, Mr. Fuerst was united in marriage to Miss Antonie Schmidt, a daughter of William Schmidt, who was formerly a prominent agriculturist of Brandenburg and is now living retired near Kewanee. He was one of the founders and is a leading member of the German Evangelical church at Brandenburg. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fuerst has been born a son, Clarence A., who is now six years of age.

In his political views Mr. Fuerst is independent, always supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified for the office in question, regardless of party affiliation. For a number of years he acted as secretary of the Farmers Alliance Association. Both he and his wife are valued and faithful members of the German Evangelical church near Kewanee, and he takes an active and helpful part in its work, having for a number of years served in the capacity of Sunday-school superintendent. He has remained a resident of Henry county from his birth to the present time and that his life has ever been upright and honorable is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his stanch friends and admirers.

---

### CHARLES H. McHENRY.

Charles H. McHenry, of Cambridge, was only three years old when brought to Henry county and through a long period was closely identified with its agricultural interests, but since 1901 has lived retired in the village. He represents one of the old pioneer families of the state. The Black Hawk war occurred only two years before his birth, which was on the 14th of June, 1834, the place of his nativity being in White county, Illinois.

His paternal grandfather was Robert McHenry, a farmer by occupation who, removing to this state settled in White county among its earliest residents. He married Elizabeth Jones and died in White county, while his wife passed away in Henry county. Their son, William McHenry, was born in Barren county, Kentucky, and devoted his life to general farming and to the work of the ministry as a preacher of the Methodist denomination. He cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of White county, Illinois, and was also one of the first residents of Henry county, arriving in 1836, at which time he entered land in Osco township. In 1837 he removed his family to this county, arriving on the 10th of May, and for more than three decades thereafter he was closely associated with the development and the progress of this portion of the state,

leaving the impress of his individuality upon the agricultural life of the community and also upon its moral progress. He died March 15, 1868, when about sixty-eight years of age, while his wife passed away in 1890 at the age of seventy years. Mrs. McHenry bore the maiden name of Susie Land and was born in White county, Illinois, her parents being Robert and Lucy (Fike) Land. Her father was a native of South Carolina and became a pioneer settler of White county, Illinois, where he entered claims from the government that have since been in possession of the family. Both he and his wife lived to a ripe old age and had a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, who reached years of maturity. This number included Mrs. McHenry who by her marriage became the mother of ten children, who reached adult age, as follows: Francis; Thomas C.; Joseph B.; Charles H.; Elizabeth, the widow of Isaac Stafford; Mary, the wife of Brown Mapes, of Moline, Illinois; Gelina, the wife of Perry Aldrich; Melinda, the wife of Albert King; Emma, the wife of Silas Aldrich; Laura, the wife of Frank Cox; and two who died in infancy.

Charles H. McHenry was not quite three years of age when his parents removed to this county and from the age of four years he was reared upon the home farm in Phenix township, attending the old-fashioned subscription schools at a day when the teacher "boarded round." Later the district schools were established and he continued his studies through that method of instruction. He has lived to see remarkable changes in the county and the ways of life here. He can remember when the wheat was threshed by being tramped out by horses upon the barn floor and when grain was hauled to Chicago by ox team. The great pork market at that time was at Galena, eighty miles away. Many of the homes were log cabins, cooking was done over the fireplace and the house was lighted by candles. The farmers depended upon what they raised for almost everything they needed, resorting to stores only for a few dry goods and such groceries as sugar, coffee and a few others that could not be raised in this climate. Through the period of his youth when not attending school Mr. McHenry was busy in the fields and after attaining his majority he started out in life for himself, renting land for two years. He decided, however, to own property and purchased eighty acres from his father to which he has added from time to time until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres in Osco township. This he improved from the virgin soil, transforming the raw prairie into rich and productive fields. He continued to engage actively in farming until 1901, when he removed to Cambridge, where he has since lived retired.

Mr. McHenry has long been pleasantly situated in his home life. On the 3d of January, 1863, he wedded Miss Lucy G. Kilmer, who was born in New York, of which state her parents, William and Lucinda (Larkin) Kilmer, were also natives. They became early settlers of Osco township, where they continued to reside until called to the home beyond. Upon their farm there they reared their family of four sons and four daughters. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. McHenry was a native of New York and a soldier of the war of 1812. His ancestors came from Germany. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. McHenry was Henry Larkin, who was likewise born in the Empire state and also aided in protecting American interests in the second war with England.

Mr. and Mrs. McHenry have become parents of six children: Alice, living in Chicago; Emma, the wife of Curtis Sheesly, a resident of Rock Island, Illinois; Lucy, who became the wife of Edward Lindberg and died in 1895, a few months after her marriage; Alvin, who conducts the home farm in Osco township and married Ida Guthrie, of Nebraska, by whom he has three children: Robert, John and Jessie; Edgar, of Geneseo, who married Cora Blair of that place, and has one daughter, Ruth; and Arthur, who is employed in the tube works of Kewanee. He married Jennie Church and they have one daughter, Dorothy.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. McHenry are members of the Methodist church, with which they have long been identified. His political allegiance is given to the democracy but during the period of his active life he was too busy to seek or desire public office. He now has a nice home in Cambridge where he and his wife are living. They have traveled life's journey together for forty-seven years, sharing each other's joys and sorrows, adversity and prosperity. Few residents of the county have so long resided in the village borders or have more intimate knowledge of its history that Mr. McHenry, who for seventy-two years has made his home here.

---

#### DYER FORD.

Dyer Ford is the president of the Galva State bank, at Galva, where he has spent the greater part of his life. He is prominent among the enterprising, progressive and prosperous business men whose efforts have contributed to the best interests of the community as well as to his individual success. He was born in Penn Yan, New York, March 5, 1855, and is a son of Milton Morris and Laura (Spencer) Ford, who were also natives of the Empire state. The paternal grandfather, Dyer Ford, was a native of Hampton, Connecticut, born in 1798 and at an early day in the development of central Illinois he became a resident of Canton, whence he afterward removed to Galesburg, while later he established his home at Oneida, Illinois. He engaged in general merchandising in all three places and died in Oneida when more than eighty years of age. He married Lovisa Morris, who was born in Greenfield, New York, in 1802. The maternal grandfather of Dyer Ford was Martin Spencer, who was born at Hillsdale, New York, in 1769, and spent his entire life in the east. In 1799 he wedded Sybil Richmond, who was born in 1783.

Milton Morris Ford became a resident of Galva in 1860 and spent the remainder of his days here. He established a dry-goods store, which he conducted with success until about 1882. He was also an attorney and was admitted to the Illinois bar but did not practice to any extent in the courts, preferring to give his attention to general mercantile pursuits. He was, however, prominent in the public life of the community and exercised a wide-felt and beneficial influence in public affairs. He was one of the leading representatives of the republican party and became identified in this way with some of the most prominent men of the state. He was a personal friend and warm admirer

of General John A. Logan, also of E. C. Ingersoll and John B. Hawley, member of congress. He served for one term in the house of representatives and was afterward elected from his district to the state senate, serving in the thirty-second general assembly. He left the impress of his individuality upon public thought and action and while in the legislature took active part in framing the laws enacted during that period. For a number of years he was engaged in the general loan business and success followed his wise investments and unflinching energy as a logical sequence. He died November 5, 1894, at the age of seventy-one years, and his wife passed away in 1893, also at the age of seventy-one. They were members of the Congregational church and their upright lives won for them the unqualified esteem and confidence of all who knew them. In their family were five sons and two daughters, of whom three lived to years of maturity: Florence F., now the wife of Dr. B. S. Peck, of Galva; Jennie S., who died in early womanhood; and Dyer, of this review.

The last named was only five years of age when brought to Galva, where he was reared and made his home until 1883. He attended the public and high schools of the city, also became a student in Griswold College, in Davenport, Iowa, and for three years attended Oberlin College, of Ohio. Thus liberal education qualified him for the practical and responsible duties of a business career. After putting aside his text-books he engaged in merchandising in Galva with his father until 1883, when he went to Stromsburg, Nebraska, where he followed general merchandising in partnership with his brother-in-law, Dr. Peck, with whom he continued for ten years. He then removed to Lansing, Michigan, where he continued until his father's death and in 1894 returned to Galva, since which time he has been continually identified with the business interests of the city. In 1895 he became one of the incorporators of the Galva State Bank and was its vice president until January 1, 1909, when he was elected to the presidency. From the organization of the bank he has been active in its control, bending his energies to administrative direction, and his executive force and keen insight have been salient features in making this one of the sound financial institutions of the county.

On the 2d of September, 1874, Mr. Ford was married to Miss May E. Mitchell, of Davenport, Iowa, who was born in Exeter, New Hampshire. Her parents, Colonel and Mrs. A. L. Mitchell, were natives of Maine and became early residents of Chicago, after which they removed to Davenport, Iowa. Her father was a carpenter and joiner and won his title as commander of a regiment in the Civil war. He was afterward in the commission business in St. Louis and subsequently returned to Davenport but is now living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His wife is deceased and Eddie Mitchell, the second of their four children, has also passed away. The others are Julia, Phil and May E. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Ford was Abner Mitchell, who lived in Alfred, Maine, and was a prominent citizen there and justice of the peace.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ford has been blessed with three children: Laura B., the wife of F. H. Wilson, of Galva, by whom she has one son, Ford H.; Morris M., who is assistant cashier of the Galva State bank and married Blanche L. Lowrey, by whom he has one son, Dyer; and Everett P., who has just completed school. The parents are members of the Congregational church, in which

Mr. Ford is serving as a trustee. He is prominent in Masonic circles, belonging to Galva Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Galesburg Commandery, K. T.; and the Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. He also holds membership in Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F. and the Encampment and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His political endorsement is given to the republican party, and while in Nebraska he served as chairman of the republican county central committee, while at the present time he is a member of the township central committee of Galva. As the greater part of his life has here been passed he is widely known and that the record is an honorable one is indicated in the regard which is given him. That his life has been well spent is proven in the success which has attended his efforts, making him one of the prosperous citizens of Galva. His geniality, his unfaltering courtesy, and his deference for the opinions of others, constitute the source of his popularity and he stands today as one of the foremost men in this section of the county.

---

### MATTHEW BONAR BLISH.

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the annals of Henry county without learning of the long and active connection with the Blish family therewith, and Matthew Bonar Blish is numbered among those who are today prominent in the life of the community. He has for a number of years been a leading business man of Kewanee and like the others of the name merits and receives the high respect and good will of those with whom he has been associated. He is a son of Charles Cheney Blish and a brother of James K. Blish, both mentioned elsewhere in this volume. His birth occurred at Wethersfield, Illinois, December 5, 1848, and he attended the local schools of that place and Kewanee, while subsequently he spent one year in the University of Michigan. Following his marriage he began farming, which continued to be his business until a year or two after the death of his father in 1890. He had previously in connection with his father under the firm name of C. C. Blish & Son, developed one of the finest herds of shorthorn cattle in the west and they became widely known as prominent stock breeders and dealers. After the death of the senior member of the firm M. B. Blish, never of strong physique, felt that the constant care necessary to maintain the herd was telling upon him and disposed of it at a public sale, the high prices realized being an unmistakable index of the quality of the animals.

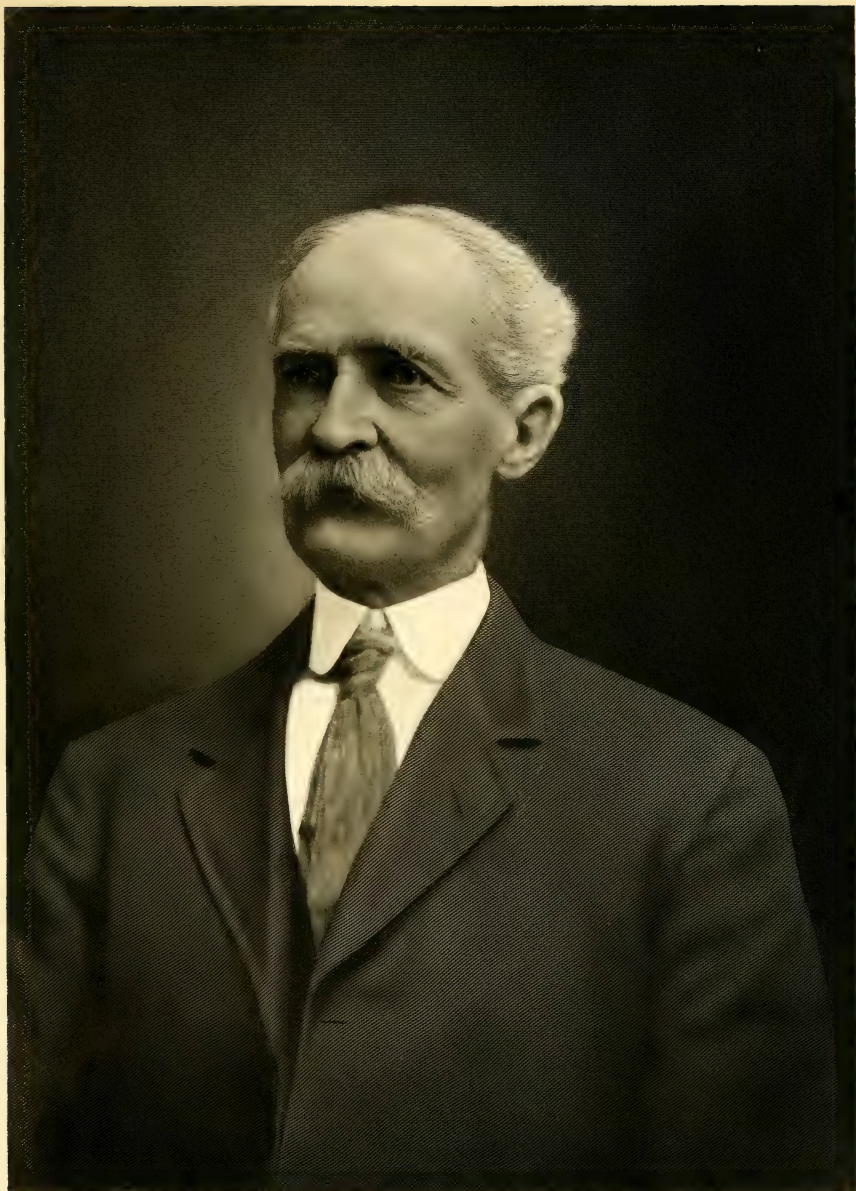
It was on the 23d of December, 1868, in Wethersfield, Illinois, that Matthew B. Blish was united in marriage to Miss Martha Florence Morrill, a daughter of Daniel Webster and Elizabeth Almira (Wedge) Morrill. Mrs. Blish was born November 18, 1849, at Ripley, Virginia, and this marriage has been blessed with three children: Kate Elizabeth, who was born in Wethersfield, October 13, 1869; Charles Bonar, born February 25, 1871; and Dwight Morrill, May 23, 1881. For a number of years Mr. Blish, to avoid the rigors of the northern climate, spent the winter months in Mobile and Citronelle, Alabama. He is officially connected with the Kewanee Fair Association and is a prominent member of the Masonic

fraternity. The family has always stood for a high type of American manhood, for loyalty and progressiveness in citizenship, for trustworthiness and enterprise in business life, and the history of those who bear the name constitutes a most important and interesting chapter in the records of Henry county.

---

### JAMES KNOX BLISH.

James Knox Blish, for thirty-six years a member of the Kewanee bar, whose record is in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for he is a native son of the county in which he resides, having here passed his active life and so directed his ability and efforts as to gain recognition as one of its representative and valued members of the bar. His birth occurred near Kewanee, May 2, 1843, his parents being Charles C. and Elizabeth P. (Bonar) Blish. There has been compiled an extended genealogical record of the family which says that all of the name of Blish are descended from Abraham Blish, who was in Duxbury, a part of the Plymouth colony, in 1637, and is mentioned in Winsor's History of Duxbury. He removed to Barnstable as early as 1640 and his homestead there was owned by him and his descendants for nearly two hundred years. On July, 1658, he purchased of Dolar Davis for seventy-five pounds, a farm in the easterly part of the town near the present site of the town of Barnstable, a portion of which land was in the old common-field. He was "propounded for freeman," June 5, 1661, and seemed to be a man of considerable local influence in that he served in various offices. His son Joseph Blish was born April 1, 1648, at Barnstable, was there married September 15, 1674, to Hannah, a daughter of Tristram and Agnes Hull. She was born in 1657. He was admitted as a freeman in 1689 and died June 14, 1730. His son, Tristram Blish, son of Joseph and Hannah (Hull) Blish, was born in April, 1694, at West Barnstable, Massachusetts, and was married October 17, 1717, to Anne Fuller, who was born at Barnstable in November, 1693, a daughter of Matthew and Prudence (Young) Fuller. Tristram Blish was a weaver by trade. He was executor of the will of his father in Barnstable and members of his family removed to Colchester, Connecticut, about 1726, his name occurring several times in the land records of that place. David Blish, son of Tristram and Hannah (Fuller) Blish, was born at Colchester, Connecticut, October 26, 1732, and was married about 1752, to Zeruiah, daughter of Deacon Nathaniel and Mary (Gillett) Skinner. She was born June 25, 1730, at Colchester, Connecticut. David and Zeruiah Blish were communicants in the church at Marlboro in 1754 and all of their children were baptized there. It seems that the name has been variously spelled Blish and Blush through succeeding generations, perhaps not so much by members of the family but by others who had occasion to write the name. On the records of Captain David Miller's Company that marched in September, 1776, to East Chester to join General Washington's army, appears the name of David Blish "David Blish, sergeant." He was also sergeant in Captain Rudd's company in Colonel Chapman's regiment in the Revolutionary war, which took part in the movement of the army to dis-



• Jas. H. Plishy,



lodge the British at Newport in 1778, and was also present at the battle of Rhode Island. The only town office he is recorded as holding is that of highway surveyor in 1794. According to the inscription on his tombstone in the Marlboro cemetery, he died October 26, 1817, and his wife's tombstone records her death as January 27, 1813. Deacon Thomas Blish, son of David and Zeruah (Skinner) Blish, was born September 13, 1762, at Glastonbury, Connecticut, and was married September 21, 1785, to Prudence, daughter of Elizur and Abigail (Holister) Hubbard. She was born in Glastonbury, April 23, 1767. Thomas Blish was a farmer, owning several hundred acres of land in East Glastonbury. He filled a number of town offices and was prominent in the work of the church. He died April 15, 1831, and his widow afterward lived for a time with her son Sylvester, who in 1837, removed to Wethersfield, Illinois. Later she went to Rockton, Illinois, to live with her daughter, Dorothy Talcott, and there remained until her death, which occurred in 1848.

Colonel Sylvester Blish, the grandfather of James K. Blish and a son of Deacon Thomas and Prudence (Hubbard) Blish, was born December 31, 1790, at Glastonbury, Connecticut, and on the 1st of January, 1812, at South Manchester, Connecticut, wedded Rhoda Cheney, who was born December 5, 1794, at South Manchester, a daughter of Timothy and Rhoda (Skinner) Cheney. Colonel Sylvester and Rhoda (Cheney) Blish were the parents of Charles C. Blish and William H. Blish and the grandparents of James K. Blish, whose name introduces this review. As Colonel Sylvester Blish and his descendants have been prominently identified with the history of Henry county they are mentioned more at length on another page of this volume.

James K. Blish, whose name introduces this record, acquired his early education in the Union school of Wethersfield and Kewanee and afterward became a student in the preparatory school at Ann Arbor, and in 1862 he entered the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1866. His college days being ended, he returned to his home in this county and was identified with farming interests in Wethersfield township for three years. His alma mater conferred upon him the Master of Arts degree in 1876. After devoting three years to farming he went to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he entered the firm of Kiter, Bonar & Blish, manufacturers of blank books, his identification with that house continuing for two years, after which he disposed of his interest there and went to Chicago, where he entered the employ of J. W. Middleton, engaged in the same line of business, until the disastrous fire of 1871. He then returned to Kewanee and with the determination of entering upon a professional career became a law student in the office of Howe & North, the senior partner being Judge John H. Howe, who a year later was appointed by President Grant as chief justice of the territory of Wyoming. Mr. Blish then continued his law studies under the direction of Hon. Levi North, and while pursuing his law course was elected justice of the peace, being the youngest man who has ever filled that position in Kewanee.

In 1873 Mr. Blish passed the required examination before the judges of the supreme court at Springfield, among whom was the venerable Sidney Breese, and being thus admitted to the bar opened a law office in Kewanee, where he has since successfully followed his profession. He is today one of the oldest repre-

sentatives of the bar of this city in years of continuous practice here. He has won for himself very favorable criticism for the careful and systematic methods which he has followed. He has remarkable power of concentration and application, and his retentive mind has often excited the surprise of his professional colleagues. As an orator he stands high, especially in the discussion of legal matters before the court, where his comprehensive knowledge of the law is manifest and his application of legal principles demonstrates the wide range of his professional acquirements. The utmost care and precision characterizes his preparation of a case and has made him one of the most successful attorneys of Henry county. Mr. Blish has also become known in business circles and since 1894 has been the honored president of the First National Bank, which was organized in 1870, at which time his father was elected president and so continued for about twenty years. Various other corporate interests have benefited by his wise counsel and sagacious judgment in business affairs. He took a leading part in the organization of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association and was chosen its first secretary. He also assisted in organizing the Kewanee Electric Light Company and has been prominently identified with a number of other business enterprises that have promoted the welfare of the city.

While the life work of Mr. Blish has been preeminently that of a successful practitioner of law, he has ever been mindful of his duties and obligations of citizenship and has labored earnestly and effectively for the benefit of the city along many lines. He was one of the organizers of the Kewanee public library and served for twelve years on its board of directors. For thirteen years he was president of the Kewanee Fair Association, which he had aided in organizing, and for four years he was a member of the board of county supervisors, during which time he served on the building committee for the erection of the Henry county courthouse. His service as a member of the school board covers eighteen years, during which period he acted for a part of the time as its secretary and at all times was a stalwart champion of the cause of public education, promoting its interests through the employment of competent teachers and the adoption of improved methods of instruction. Called to the city council, he served as alderman for several years and exercised his prerogatives in support of every measure which he deemed of municipal benefit. In politics he is a democrat but not an advocate of free silver. He has been a delegate to nearly all the state conventions of his party and in 1888 was one of the presidential electors. His highest political honors were conferred upon him in 1902, when he was elected minority representative to the general assembly of Illinois for the thirty-seventh district composed of Bureau, Henry and Stark counties.

Mr. Blish has been married twice. On the 25th of December, 1867, in Chicago, Illinois, he was married to Miss Mary E. McManus, who was born January 31, 1846, in Sherburne, New York, and died September 18, 1883. There were three children of that marriage: Carrie Elizabeth, who was born February 7, 1869, at Wethersfield, Illinois, died June 8, 1870, at Council Bluffs, Iowa. James Louis was born July 18, 1871, in Chicago. Bertha Belle was born September 19, 1877, in Kewanee, Illinois. Mr. Blish's first wife died September 18, 1883, and he was again married October 5, 1886, in Cambridge, Illinois, to Miss Amy Mason Rhodes, who was born in Providence, Rhode Island, September 15,

1855, and is a daughter of Albert and Ann Elizabeth (Read) Rhodes, who came to this state during her infancy and settled on a farm at Bunker Hill, Bureau county. There Mrs. Blish attended the local schools until the failing health of her father compelled him to quit farming and the family removed to Buda, Illinois. She finished her education in Providence, Rhode Island, and at once began teaching, which she followed for more than ten years, during most of which time she was first assistant in the high schools of Buda, Sheffield and Cambridge. Since her marriage she has been an active participant in social, charitable and literary circles of Kewanee, is a member of the Ladies Reading Club and was the organizer and for several years the regent of the Kewanee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. For fifteen years she was an officer and one of the managers of the Dorcas Society, an organization supported by voluntary contributions for the benefit of the worthy poor. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Elizabeth, born March 22, 1888; Matthew Rhodes, born April 28, 1889; and Asa Rhodes, born June 8, 1893.

Mr. Blish is numbered among the pioneer residents of Henry county, where he has spent his entire life and has served for several terms as president of the Old Settlers Association. The county might well be proud of her native sons if their records were all as clean and honorable and their work as valuable in the upbuilding and promotion of public interests as that of James Knox Blish—a man respected and honored wherever known and most of all where best known.

---

### MRS. SUSAN HULSE JENNINGS.

The desire on the part of many friends of Mrs. Susan Hulse Jennings is in harmony with the wish of the publishers to present to our readers her history, for through forty years she bore a prominent part in the life of the community not only in its social relations but also in the larger field of business, where she displayed remarkable energy, foresight and capability in management. She made her home on section 12, Cambridge township, where she and her husband located on a tract of four hundred acres of land in 1849 and there she remained until her demise in February, 1898, her influence being a beneficent force in the community. She was born August 20, 1813, near Chillicothe, Ohio, and was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Van Meter) Shepherd. Her paternal grandfather, Thomas Shepherd, was a pioneer of Jefferson county, Virginia, and a prominent factor in all the general interests of that part of the state, being closely associated with its settlements and the development of its agricultural and business affairs. He built and operated what was then known as a merchant mill and in the conduct of his agricultural and industrial interests won prosperity. Through his efforts the town of Shepherdston, Virginia, was laid out and became a place of more than ordinary pretensions. This successful and enterprising business man in his early manhood was fortunate in winning for his bride Miss Susan Hulse, the belle of Wheeling, West Virginia, and to them were born eight children. Two sons of the family, two sons-in-law and the father all enlisted as soldiers in the

war of 1812, and the latter gave a drove of cattle for the use of the army. His granddaughter, Mrs. Jennings, whose name introduces this review, first opened her eyes to the light on the day when her father returned from the war.

Her father, John Shepherd, was born February 16, 1776, and married Elizabeth Van Meter, a daughter of Isaac and Rebecca (Wright) Van Meter. Her parents were prosperous people so that the splendid opportunities of education and culture were afforded her. Her father was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the county in which he made his home and was highly esteemed for his sterling worth as a man and for his unfaltering integrity in every relation of life. Unto John Shepherd and his wife were born eight children. The parents when still young went to Ohio and the father served as sheriff of the county in which they settled. In the fall of 1835 they removed westward to Vermilion county, Illinois, where the death of Mr. Shepherd occurred April 3, 1841. He had devoted his life to farming and milling and his industry, energy and reliability were factors in his success. His wife was born May 4, 1783, and died in Pickaway county, Ohio, September 5, 1835.

Mrs. Jennings was the fourth child of her parents and the other members of the family were Abraham, Rebecca W., Isaac V., Rachel, Mary, Elizabeth and Joseph L., all now deceased. She spent her girlhood days under the parental roof and on the 6th of March, 1835, gave her hand in marriage to Levi Jennings, who was born in Virginia, March 10, 1794. They began their domestic life on a farm in Peoria county, Illinois, where they continued to reside for fourteen years, after which Mr. Jennings disposed of his property there and returned to Ohio, where they remained for one summer. They then became residents of Canton, Fulton county, Illinois, and in April, 1849, arrived in Henry county, where they purchased four hundred acres of land and two thousand head of sheep. This was still a pioneer district and their primitive home was a log cabin barely large enough to accommodate the members of the family. They occupied it for five years, however, bending their energies to the improvement of their farm, Mrs. Jennings wisely managing the household affairs while her husband had charge of the work of cultivating the fields.

The death of Mr. Jennings occurred December 28, 1859, at Henderson, Minnesota. The original purchase of four hundred acres remained in possession of the family and Mrs. Jennings prosecuted the interests of the estate with characteristic energy. Not only did she make the home farm a profitable enterprise but from time to time as her financial interests increased made investment in other property until she became one of the large landowners of Henry county, her possessions aggregating thirteen hundred acres. Of this eleven hundred and twenty acres were included in the home farm, while the remainder was timber land about three miles distant. Mrs. Jennings gave personal supervision to all the work of the farm and stock raising was made a prominent feature of the place, about three hundred hogs and two hundred head of cattle being fattened annually, while at one time sixty head of horses were kept on the place.

Mrs. Jennings proved a most devoted and faithful mother to her children, who were four in number, namely: Annie V., who was born February 20, 1836, and is now the widow of James Bush, residing in Winterset, Iowa; Mary J., who was born November 14, 1838, and is the widow of Nathaniel B. Gould; John

L., who was born December 25, 1840, and died January 6, 1908; and Ella, who was born in May, 1854, and died at the age of eighteen months.

The death of Mrs. Jennings occurred in February, 1889, when she was in the seventy-sixth year of her age. She was a remarkable woman, possessing notable business tact, enterprise, the keenest discrimination and sound judgment. Her memory was retentive and her knowledge of detail most accurate. She saw and recognized the possibilities for judicious and profitable investment and her business ability made her the peer of the successful men of the county, while in all those true womanly traits of sociability, kindness and consideration she was richly endowed.

---

#### ROBERT A. MANGUSON.

Among the representative citizens whom Sweden has given to the new world is Robert A. Manguson, who belongs to a family that, like many another that has come from across the water, sought the opportunities of the new world that advancement might be made in business lines and better advantages given to the members of the household. Born on the 11th of October, 1856, in Gotenburg, he is a son of Eric and Sarah Stena (Samuelson) Manguson, the former a native of Kisa, Sweden, born there on the 11th of February, 1822.

The parents, in company with four brothers of Mrs. Manguson, came to America when the subject was but a year and a half old. The vessel upon which they embarked foundered and was lost at sea, and they were rescued by another ship. They were eleven weeks in making the journey but finally landed in New York city, where they resided for about five years, during which time the father was engaged in the carpenter's trade. Later they came to Henry county, where the brothers of Mrs. Manguson had already located. The home was established in Western township and there the father was employed as a laborer and at the same time operated a rented farm which belonged to the Samuelsons, his wife's brothers. About the year 1866 he purchased eighty acres of land on section 20, Osco township, where he erected a small house and upon which he resided for a number of years. He became very prosperous in his agricultural pursuits and as the years passed was able to add to his original purchase. He first invested in one hundred and sixty acres on section 18, Osco township, to which he removed and upon which he made many improvements, continuing to reside thereupon for several years. Later he purchased one hundred and nine and a half acres on section 30, this township, upon which farm our subject now resides. His entire life was given to general farming pursuits and he never had occasion to regret his determination to seek his fortune in this country, for here, where individual effort is unhampered by caste or class, he prospered and through industry, thrift and perseverance gained a place among the substantial agriculturists of the township. He was a stalwart republican in politics but not an aspirant for public office, and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church. Death came to him on the 30th of December, 1905, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, having survived his wife about

two years, her death occurring on the 21st of October, 1903. Their family consisted of nine children, eight of whom grew to maturity and seven are still living. They are as follows: Matilda, the wife of Samuel Peterson, who with their ten children reside in Orion; Caroline, who married August Hart and passed away in Merced, California, leaving five children; Charles, who wedded Christine Swanson, by whom he has six children, and makes his home in Rolfe, Iowa; Robert A., of this review; Alfred, who resides in Osco; Ida, the wife of Frank Elm, of Cambridge, by whom she has three children; Emily, the wife of John Westerlund, of Elliott, Iowa; Frank, who married Emily Shellberg, and with his wife and one child resides on section 29, Osco township; and one who died in infancy.

Coming to America in very early childhood, Robert A. Manguson has therefore spent almost his entire life in this country and in the schools of Osco township, Henry county, acquired a very good knowledge of the various branches of English learning. His entire boyhood and youth were passed under the parental roof and he early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad. He continued to give his father the benefit of his assistance until twenty-two years of age, when he launched out in an independent venture, renting one of his father's farms for a year or two and during that time making his home with his parents. He then laid the foundation for a happy home life in his marriage on the 2d of July, 1889, at Orion, to Miss Minnie Johnson, a native of Tiersom, Sweden, and a daughter of Jonas Diederic and Charlotte (Nelson) Johnson. She was sixteen years of age when she accompanied her parents on their removal to America, settlement being made in Orion, Henry county, Illinois. The father still survives and makes his home in Osco township, while the mother passed away September 16, 1905.

After his marriage Mr. Manguson came to his present farm, which he operated in the capacity of renter until his father's death, when he purchased the property from the estate, paying for it one hundred and fifty-four dollars per acre. It consists of one hundred and nine and a half acres located on section 30, Osco township. It was in excellent condition when it came into his possession and he has since directed his efforts towards its further cultivation. He has fully equipped it with the modern conveniences and accessories for facilitating farm labor and it contains all of the modern improvements which go to make up a model farm. He engages in general agricultural pursuits. Up-to-date and progressive in his methods, possessing excellent business ability, he has, through his close application and good management worked his way upward in the agricultural world until today he ranks among the progressive, prosperous and representative farmers of the township.

As the years have come and gone four children have come to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Manguson, namely: Robert Clyde, who was born on the 11th of November, 1890; Ralph Amos, born May 22, 1895; Hazel Delsina, whose birth occurred on the 7th of May, 1898; and Alice Lorena, born on the 31st of August, 1900. The parents are both members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Orion, the teachings of which form the guiding principles of their lives. Mr. Manguson is stalwart in his support of the republican party, doing all in his power to further its influence in the community, although he has never sought nor de-

sired public office as the reward of party fealty. He has, however, served as a director on the school board, the cause of education finding in him a staunch champion. In his business affairs he has ever displayed sound judgment and keen discrimination and at the same time has ever been straightforward and honorable, basing his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity. He is a man of many friends and has long been numbered among the valued citizens of the township.

---

### ISAAC SPROUSE.

On the roll of Henry county's honored dead appears the name of Isaac Sprouse, who was for many years actively identified with the farming interests of this section of Illinois. He was a man of kindly purpose and unbounded sympathy and all who knew him felt honored by his friendship. Born in Staunton, Virginia, November 17, 1839, he was a son of Mr. and Mrs. McCady Sprouse. The father served in the war of 1812 and afterward received a soldier's grant of land in Henry county, this tract constituting the farm which has since been in possession of the Sprouse family. He died on the old homestead, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Patterson, and was born in Kentucky, departed this life when eighty years of age.

Isaac Sprouse was reared in Staunton, Virginia, to the age of fourteen years, when he accompanied the parents on their removal to Henry county. His studies, begun in the schools of the south, were completed in the public schools of Nekoma, this state. Being the youngest of ten children, he remained with his parents on the home farm, caring for them in their declining years. After the father put aside business cares, the son managed the homestead place and continued to render such assistance to his widowed mother after the father passed away. Following her demise, he purchased the interest of the other heirs and thus became owner of one hundred and seven acres in Weller township. When the place came into his possession he replaced the old buildings with new and modern ones and made it a valuable farming property. He carried on farming for many years, the only interruption to his business being at the time of the Civil war, inheriting his father's loyal and patriotic spirit, he joined the army on the 25th of August, 1862, and served until June 10, 1865, when he received an honorable discharge. His death occurred August 15, 1903.

It was prior to his service in the Civil war that Mr. Sprouse was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Anderson, a daughter of Samuel Anderson, a prosperous farmer of Orion, this county. The wedding was celebrated in Cambridge, Illinois, on the 25th of November, 1860. Their union was blessed with five sons and three daughters: William G., forty-seven years of age, is farming in Worthington, Minnesota. Charles E., who is forty-two years of age, lives in Cameron, Missouri, and also gives his attention to agricultural pursuits. J. Franklin, forty years old, farms near Osco, in Henry county. Emma, thirty-six years of age, is the wife of George Wingader, of Galesburg, Illinois. Carrie M., who is the wife of W. S. Whitney, of Nekoma, is thirty-

three years old. Melvin O., thirty-one years of age, is also a farmer of Henry county, making his home near Woodhull. Mary J., passed away on the 30th of December, 1907, when twenty-six years old. Elmer L., an enterprising young man of twenty-six years, operates the old homestead farm.

Mr. Sprouse was independent in politics, voting for the man whom he deemed best fitted and most worthy of office regardless of his platform. His fraternal relations were with the Modern Woodmen and the United Workmen of America, and while he was deeply interested in these organizations, he yet found time to devote to matters of a public nature, filling the office of constable for many years, while for thirty-three years he was a school director. He always advocated a good school system in order that his own and other children of the neighborhood might receive an education suited to the demands of the times and that they might start out in life well equipped for the strenuous service of this exacting age. Last, but none the less important, was his church relationship. Mr. Sprouse was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church organized at Nekoma and from that date until his death he served on the board of trustees. For many years he likewise acted as superintendent of the Sunday school and in every movement and department of church work, whether of a business or social nature, he gave freely of his time and means. It is a difficult task to offer a fitting memorial to the life and accomplishments of a man of his character. Of broad and comprehensive views, of indomitable perseverance and strong personality, his life was as an open scroll, inviting the closest scrutiny. He directed his efforts in those lines where his judgment led him and carved his name deeply on the record of the political, agricultural and moral history of Henry county, which owes much of its advancement to his efforts.

---

### CHARLES K. LADD.

A man of national prominence in democratic politics, with a state-wide reputation as a member of the bar, and honored and respected wherever known by reason of his eminent ability and his fearless defense of his honest convictions, Charles K. Ladd in his home city of Kewanee occupied a position almost unique in the opinion of his fellow townsmen. His own clear convictions and frank expression thereof caused many to differ from him in opinion on vital questions, and yet those same people entertained for him warm and friendly regard, recognizing his large heart, his generous nature and his public spirit.

The life history of Charles K. Ladd given in detail with an analysis of his character is an interesting one. He was born February 26, 1839, in Wilmot, New Hampshire, and his history was in measure shaped by the influences of his youthful days spent among the granite hills of that state. He always had the deepest attachment for his New England home, to which in reminiscent mood he referred with tenderness and eloquence. His parents were John T. and Lydia Ladd, the former a stone-cutter by trade. They remained residents of New Hampshire until 1855, when they brought their family to Illinois, settling at Indian Hill, a small place near Mineral. There Charles K. Ladd assisted in the cul-



Yours truly  
Charles Ladd



tivation and improvement of the home farm until the fall of 1858, when he came with his parents to Kewanee. Soon after he had opportunity for supplementing his early educational privileges by a course at Lombard College in Galesburg, Illinois, and in that institution pursued his studies to graduation. In his college days he formed the determination to become a lawyer and to this end entered the law school of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, his admission to the bar following the completion of his course there. Throughout the years of a successful professional career he remained a resident of Kewanee, first entering upon practice in connection with Judge Wilson, with offices on Tremont street. After four or five years the firm removed to another location at the corner of Tremont and Third streets, and soon Mr. Ladd purchased the interest of Judge Wilson and continued in practice alone there throughout the remainder of his life. For nearly thirty years he occupied offices in the Fischer building and about five years prior to his death removed to the location in which he continued until his demise. He was one of the eminent lawyers, not only of the Kewanee bar but of the state, and practiced in various sections of Illinois, having cases pending in many courts at the time of his death. Constant and close study brought him thorough knowledge of the law, and, moreover, he attained rare ability as an orator and forceful speaker, these qualities resulting in winning him enviable success in his profession. He was retained as counsel for the defense or prosecution in many important cases and during the latter part of his life lost none of the eloquence which characterized him as a lawyer and public speaker in his earlier years.

Judge Graves said of him: "He was a lawyer of eminent success. I find especial reason for his success and that lay in his ability to present his case effectively to the jury. He did not use the same speech for all cases, but changed its sentiment and style of presentation to suit occasions. He was tactful and knew how to get the jury to return the verdict he was working for. I have known him to obtain verdicts which the court could not allow to stand. I attribute this to his tact and his skill in presenting the law and his side of the case. Lawyers are many times slandered and declared to be lacking in veracity. In all my acquaintance with Mr. Ladd I know that he has never violated an agreement with me regarding any of the cases on the docket or on trial. I needed no written stipulation. His word was as good as his bond." He was attorney for the Tube Company from its inception until his death and of other important business interests and corporations in Kewanee.

While Mr. Ladd was prominently known to the legal profession of Illinois, he was even more widely known because of his political labors in behalf of the democratic party, of which he was always a stanch advocate. His words and voice carried weight, not only in local but in the state and national councils. In the political campaign of 1892 he delivered many addresses and following the election of Grover Cleveland was offered the United States district attorneyship of northern Illinois. He had no desire, however, for public preferment and, declining the proffered honor, recommended that his friend, Sherwood Dixon, of Dixon, Illinois, be appointed, which suggestion was honored by President Cleveland. He also declined at the same time to become ambassador to the court of Italy. When Carter Harrison first became mayor of Chicago he offered Mr.

Ladd the position of corporation counsel, but this, too, was declined. He first formed the acquaintance of William Jennings Bryan at Springfield, in 1894, and there sprang up between them a close friendship that continued until the death of Mr. Ladd, Mr. Bryan always being the guest of Mr. Ladd when in Kewanee, while the latter several times visited at the former's home. They were said to resemble each other closely in personal appearance, so much so that on one occasion when Mr. Ladd was traveling with Mr. Bryan and the latter became fatigued Mr. Ladd went upon the rear platform of the train at a number of stations where he made short speeches and was recognized and cheered as the Nebraska statesman. He served for a number of years as a member of the state central committee and in 1896 was chairman of the democratic state convention held in Springfield. During the campaign of that year he traveled throughout the east and middle west and in two months delivered more addresses than any of the democratic orators under the direction of the national committee. He generally agreed with the political views of Mr. Bryan but took strong exception to his attitude on government ownership and expressed his views on that question in an article which appeared in the Chicago papers. It was also in the convention of 1896 that he made the speech that quieted disorder and defeated David B. Hill for temporary chairman. At that convention he declined the vice presidency. His open letter to William J. Bryan, upon the latter's return from Europe, he urging the Nebraskan to moderate his views on certain questions in the interests of harmony, brought him prominently into public notice.

As an orator he had exceptional ability. Logical and eloquent, his reputation as a campaign speaker was national. The Galesburg Register said: "He was the most picturesque democrat in central Illinois. No man could be more genial and agreeable, and none more terrific in the arraignment of his political foes. We recall one time his making a political speech three hours long, holding his audience to the end by his entertaining and magnetic eloquence." The Chicago Post said: "Mr. Ladd was held in high regard by his party and no important gathering of democrats in the state was considered complete without his presence and his independent expression of opinion."

In Kewanee, where he was best known, Charles K. Ladd was held in warmest regard. He figured conspicuously in the public life of the city during his long residence here. Although he shrank from public office he consented to serve for one term as alderman and for a number of years as city attorney, and many of the ordinances of the city ordinance book were prepared by him. On one occasion when a certain amount of money had to be raised for a bonus to enlarge the Western Tube Works, in a given time he started out to secure this and did it so effectively that he was soon able to telegraph Mr. Pierce at Pittsburg that it was all subscribed. He was recognized as the father of the Kewanee Public Library and his interest therein prompted the movement which recently culminated in the erection of the splendid new block at the corner of First and Tremont streets built for the library. In previous years he had a store of books in one of his apartments and encouraged the idea of a public reading room. He interested others in loaning and giving books for public use and with the gradual growth of the institution he contributed five hundred volumes from his library and later made another gift of fifteen hundred. His private law library con-

tained forty-eight hundred volumes and was the largest to be found in the central states. He took great pride in his collection of books, which included the works of many famous ancient and modern writers.

In February, 1870, Mr. Ladd was united in marriage to Miss Isabella Shelton, and to them were born two children, Grace Lillian and Ernest Charles. Throughout his life Mr. Ladd maintained for himself the privilege of forming unbiased opinions—a privilege which he accorded as well to others. His creed, which found exemplification in his life, was that of Thomas Paine: "Loving mercy, doing justice, and endeavoring to make his fellow creatures happy." Mr. Ladd held membership in Kewanee Lodge, No. 159, A. F. & A. M.; Kewanee Chapter, No. 47, R. A. M.; Kewanee Commandery, No. 71, K. T.; Kewanee Star, No. 43, O. E. S.; and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. All of these organizations were fully represented at the funeral services which were held following the demise of Mr. Ladd, who passed away May 28, 1908. In accordance with his expressed wishes there was no depressing solemnity when he was laid away. Several musical selections of a bright, cheerful nature were sung and several friends spoke from their knowledge of the deceased. Judge Hand, chief justice of the supreme court said: "When a young man he came here and during forty years was one of Kewanee's truest friends and one of the best known citizens of the community. No one will go out from Kewanee or Henry county who will be more missed than C. K. Ladd. He was a warm-hearted, generous man, anxious to help those in need—a man who loved his friends. There was much in his character to inspire the young man of the present day. He came here a poor boy but he carved a name for himself." Judge Graves said: "My friend Ladd was a man of strong convictions. He was a leader, not a follower of men, both in thought and in action. He had his own ideas and was at all times willing to express his convictions on any subject to others. They were not all in accord with current ideas, but it did not necessarily follow that they were not right. It is easy enough to adopt the thoughts and ideas of others, but it takes courage to stem the tide of public opinion with one's own ideas of contrary nature. \* \* \* He was a true friend and an affectionate man. There was nothing he would not do for his friends and most of his acts of kindness came unbidden and unexpected. He made mistakes, like the rest of us, but whatever else may be said of him he was not a hypocrite. If there was a worse side to him it was the outside. Generous impulses, breath of sympathy, kindness and charity, public spirit, loyalty to his home city, of all these he had more than his share. And it is these things that will linger in memory." Devotion to his family was one of his salient characteristics.

---

#### WILLIAM H. BLISH.

William H. Blish, whose long and loyal official services, whose business activity and integrity and whose high Christian character endeared him to all who knew him through the years of his residence in Henry county, was born at East Glastonbury, Connecticut, May 25, 1812, and was a son of Colonel

Sylvester Blish, the founder of the family in Henry county. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade and at the age of twenty-five years he came to Illinois with the colony that was founded at Wethersfield, in 1837. He worked at his trade there to some extent and for several years lived on a farm west of the village, but afterward took up his abode in the town and turned his attention to merchandising, conducting a store at the corner of Tenney and Church streets. About 1847 he was associated with his father in the building of a hotel just east of the store, and they conducted it for ten years, it being the only hotel in this section until after the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad was built through Kewanee. It was the stopping place for the stage lines and the engineers of the railroad made it their headquarters for some time. Mr. Blish was also associated with other business interests, becoming connected, about 1855, with Zerah Chapin in building a gristmill, in which they conducted a large and profitable business until the failure of the wheat crops of 1860 and 1861. Later in company with Nathaniel Mayhew Mr. Blish removed the mill to Neponset, Illinois, and as the venture there proved a losing one they sold out at a great sacrifice. Mr. Blish never allowed things to discourage him or to warp his kindly, genial nature, and his fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and ability, called him again and again to public office, his official services covering forty years. He filled the position of county treasurer and acted as justice of the peace until he refused longer to hold the office. He was supervisor for several years, was chosen town collector year after year and for a quarter of a century acted as school treasurer and was town clerk for nearly as long a period. His office in the corner of his old hotel, which he occupied as long as he lived, was the headquarters for all town business and the people seemed to think they could not do business elsewhere. Here he was always to be found—genial, affable, sensible and level-headed; ready to make a deed or mortgage, draw a will or have a friendly conversation on any subject. He was himself a man of peace and very few suits begun in his court ever came to trial for he usually induced the litigants to settle their disputes in an amicable way without recourse to the law.

On the 25th of January, 1836, at Glastonbury, Connecticut, William H. Blish was married to Miss Eliza Hollister, who was born November 27, 1811, in Manchester, Connecticut, and was the adopted daughter of Deacon Nehemiah Hollister. They became the parents of eight children: Charles Sylvester, who was born December 5, 1836, at Glastonbury, Connecticut; Helen Louise, who was born November 5, 1838, at Wethersfield, Illinois; John Giddings, born on the 23d of June, 1840; Adelaide Eliza, born December 22, 1842, and died October 14, 1854; Frank Cheney, who was born April 15, 1845, and died on the 17th of April, 1845; Prudence Knox, born March 10, 1847, and died October 11, 1860; Rhoda Cheney, who was born on the 10th of June, 1850; and Addie Eliza, born June 14, 1855. The mother of these children passed away November 19, 1858, and on the 17th of April, 1860, William H. Blish wedded Hannah Gage, who was born September 27, 1833, at Fairfield, New York, and a daughter of Elijah Gage of that place. The four children of that marriage were: Margaret Gage, who was born April 1, 1861, and for a number of years has been a successful school teacher; William H., born January 14, 1863; Hannah Elizabeth, who was

born November 15, 1872, and after teaching for some years in the schools of Kewanee and Chicago was married July 3, 1902, to Herbert Diller, of the latter city; and Belle Gage, who was born February 10, 1877, and after teaching in the public schools of Kewanee was married June 17, 1903, to Thomas M. O'Connor. Mrs. Hannah Gage Blish died July 19, 1881, at Wethersfield, Illinois. The death of Mr. Blish occurred in his old home July 15, 1895, when he was in his eighty-fourth year. He was a life long member of the Congregational church and for a number of years its chorister. In the community where he lived he was held in the highest esteem for he was a kind and generous man, ever ready to lend a helping hand or to give words of cheer and sympathy. He left behind him a spotless record and his memory is revered and cherished by all who knew him.

---

### WILLIAM D. JONES.

William D. Jones is a retired farmer, making his home in a comfortable residence in Colona, which he purchased in December, 1908. In former years, however, he led a very busy and active life on the farm, so that the rest which he now enjoys is well merited. Mr. Jones is a native of Canada, born on a farm in Pickering township, near Ontario. He is a son of Isaac Jones, who was born in the Empire state. He was a shoemaker by trade, also engaged in farming. He journeyed from New York, his native state, to Canada and was there united in marriage to Mrs. Susanna Millard, who bore the maiden name of Snyder. Like her husband, she was a native of New York. She had a son by her former marriage, John Millard, who served in the Civil war, being a captain in the Confederate army. He was killed in battle. She also had two sons, Charles and George Jones, who served in the Union army, being members of a Michigan regiment. Charles was also killed in battle but George served throughout the war and lived for many years thereafter, his death occurring in the Soldiers Home at Grand Rapids, Michigan, where his remains were interred. It will thus be seen that the half brother, Mr. Millard, was their antagonist during that great struggle but the fact was not known at the time.

William D. Jones was reared on the home farm in Canada and was educated in the district schools. In 1866, when a young man of twenty-two years, he crossed the border into the United States, making his way direct to Kewanee, Illinois, where for a time he was employed at whatever he could find that would yield him a living. His principal work, however, was driving teams. After a few months he went from that city to Green River with a drove of fifteen hundred sheep for O. A. Gilbert, with whom he remained for several months. He later found employment with various farmers of the neighborhood and was then with the Mineral Creek Coal Company for one winter. During the following summer he worked at farm labor in Edford township and in the winter again returned to the Mineral Creek Coal Company, with which he remained two years. It was about this time that he established a home of his own by his marriage, and subsequently he removed to Cleveland, Henry county, where he worked at carpentering and mining for about three years. It was about this time that he

decided to make farming a permanent vocation and to this end he took up his location on a tract of land in Western township. After a residence of three years in Western township he spent one year on a farm in Colona township. During all these years he had carefully saved his earnings and worked diligently from early morning until late at night and through these methods he acquired a sum which justified him in making purchase of eighty acres in Colona township. He paid but ten dollars per acre for this land but it was not long until, owing to the improvements which Mr. Jones placed upon it in the way of buildings and the care he gave to the soil, it was worth many times the amount he paid for it. This proved the basis of his later success and in due time he added ninety-three acres to his original purchase, so that the place now comprises one hundred and seventy-three acres in Colona township. For many years Mr. Jones was identified with the cultivation of this farm. He also gave much attention to stock-raising, keeping the best grades of cattle and hogs, which commanded high prices on the city markets. For many years he was likewise engaged in breeding thoroughbred French coach horses, making a close study of this breed of animals and becoming a recognized authority on the subject. Mr. Jones was thus actively engaged until December, 1908, when he put aside the more arduous cares of business pursuits and removed to Colona. His life has been a success but it is that success which comes of earnest and unremitting toil, guided by sound judgment and the capable control of all business affairs.

The 8th of May, 1869, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Jones and Miss Anna Anderson, a daughter of Andrew and Martha (Anderson) Anderson. The daughter was born in Sweden, March 1, 1849, and accompanied her parents to America in August, 1852, the family home being established on a farm near New Boston, Mercer county, Illinois, where Mr. Anderson engaged in farming throughout his remaining years, passing away December 5, 1878. The mother still survives at the advanced age of eighty-six years. She is still active and in the fall of 1909 made a trip to Polk, Nebraska, to visit a son, John H. Anderson.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jones has been blessed with seven children, as follows; Anna, the wife of Daniel McGraw, a farmer of Colona township; Mabel, the wife of Josephus S. Evans, a resident of East Moline, Illinois; Carrie, the wife of Clarence Garland, a resident farmer of Colona township, who is mentioned in this work; Manville, who died June 11, 1892, leaving a widow and one daughter, who make their home in Colona; Clarence E., of Silvis, Illinois; Lucinda, the wife of Howard Williams, of Colona township; and Wesley D., who operates the old homestead farm.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Jones has supported the republican platform and he has always kept well informed on political questions. For thirteen years he served as justice of the peace but resigned the office when he took up his abode in Colona. He has also been road commissioner, while for fourteen years he served as school director, the cause of education and good schools being one of deep interest to him. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as steward and as class leader. He is also acting as superintendent of the Sunday school, in which Mrs. Jones is a teacher. She is also identified with the LaSalle Aid Society and both are deeply interested in each and every department of church

work. No man is more respected and no man more fully enjoys the confidence of the people or more richly deserves the esteem in which he is held. The people, recognizing his merit, rejoice in his advancement and in the honors to which he has attained. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust that has been confided to his care, his life is the highest type of Christian manhood.

---

### SHERMAN WILLIAM SHAFER.

Sherman William Shafer is a prominent and well known farmer and stockman residing on section 18, Geneseo township, where he owns a highly improved and valuable tract of land of three hundred and twenty-seven acres. He was born in Williams county, Ohio, on the 22d of November, 1864, his parents being William and Mary (Varnes) Shafer, likewise natives of the Buckeye state. The paternal grandfather, Amasa Shafer, was a native of Germany and on coming to the new world took up his abode in Pennsylvania. Subsequently he removed to Williams county, Ohio, where he passed away when well advanced in years. In early manhood he wedded Miss Elizabeth Hill, by whom he had eight children. The great-grandfather of our subject on the paternal side participated in the Revolutionary war. Stephen Varnes, the maternal grandfather of Sherman W. Shafer, was born in Pennsylvania and was of German descent. Throughout his active business career he was identified with general agricultural pursuits. He was twice married and lived to an advanced age.

William Shafer, the father of Mr. Shafer of this review, came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1865, locating in Hanna township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved. As time passed by and his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of the place by additional purchase until it included three hundred and sixty acres. He likewise owned four hundred acres of land in Iowa and six hundred and forty acres in Nebraska, and was widely recognized as a most prosperous, progressive and enterprising citizen. He continued to reside on his farm in Hanna township until the time of his demise, which occurred in 1900, when he had attained the age of seventy years. He served his fellow townsmen in the position of assessor for many years and in public as well as in private life proved himself well worthy of the trust reposed in him. Both he and his wife were devoted and consistent members of the Methodist church, in the faith of which the latter passed away in 1890, when fifty-two years of age. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, three sons and three daughters, as follows: George and Fremont, who are now deceased; Sherman William, of this review; May C., the wife of William Myers, of Geneseo; Clara M., the wife of F. A. Snodgrass, of Geneseo; and Nellie M., who died at the age of twenty-one years.

Sherman William Shafer was but a few months old when brought by his parents to this county and was reared on his father's farm in Hanna township. He first attended the district schools, then pursued a course in the Colona high school and subsequently entered the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. After leaving

that institution he was engaged in the operation of a rented tract of land for two years and then bought a farm of two hundred and seventy acres in Hanna township, near Cleveland, on which he made his home for eight years. On the expiration of that period he leased the farm and took up his abode in Geneseo, where he continued to reside for eleven years. During three years of that time he was engaged in the grain trade and for one year conducted a furniture business. In 1906 he purchased his present home farm of three hundred and twenty-seven acres in Geneseo township and located thereon in the following year. He still owns one hundred and twenty acres in Hanna township. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also handles cattle on quite an extensive scale, feeding about two hundred head annually. He bought cattle for a number of years and in both his farming and stock-raising interests has gained a measure of prosperity that well entitles him to recognition among the most substantial and leading citizens of the county. He is a director in the Farmers National Bank of Geneseo.

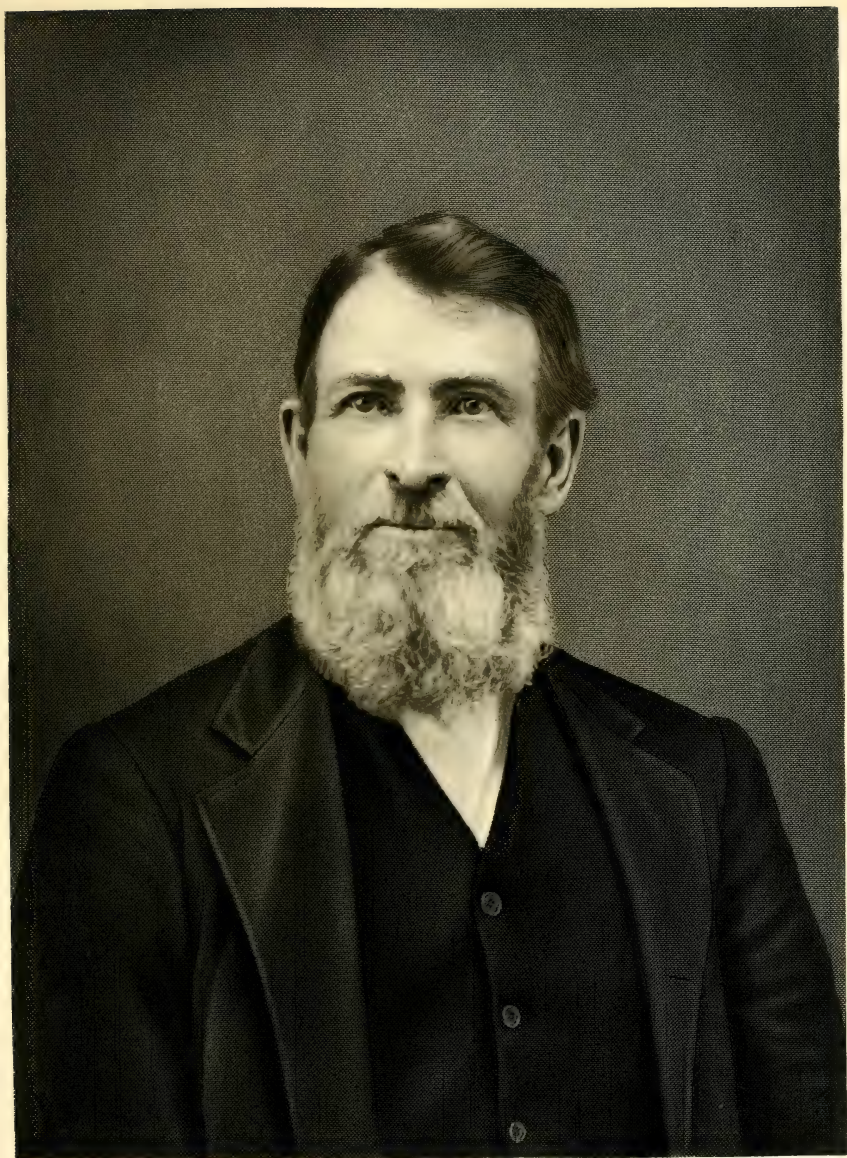
On the 22d of December, 1886, Mr. Shafer was united in marriage to Miss Ida E. Withrow, whose birth occurred in Hanna township in September, 1864, her parents being John W. and Arvilla M. (Allen) Withrow, who took up their abode in Henry county in 1835 and were among the first settlers here. A sketch of John W. Withrow appears on another page of this volume. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shafer have been born four children: Minnie B., John W., Mary A. and Donald, all at home.

Politically Mr. Shafer is a stalwart advocate of the republican party and at the present time is serving as assistant supervisor of Geneseo township, discharging his official duties in a most prompt and capable manner. He is likewise acting as trustee of the township high school board of education. While a resident of Geneseo he served one term of two years as a member of the city council. His fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Geneseo, with which his wife is also identified. He has resided in this county throughout practically his entire life and has gained the warm esteem of all with whom he has come in contact, because of his upright and honorable career and also by reason of the straightforward methods he has ever followed in his business dealings.

---

### PHILIP J. WINTZ.

Philip J. Wintz is not only one of Annawan's wealthiest and most widely known citizens, but also enjoys the distinction of being the oldest settler in Annawan township, for when he came to Illinois and for four or five years after his advent the Winnebago tribe of Indians were still in the neighborhood of the town. During a period of more than six decades he has been an eye-witness of the changes that have transformed the character of the country, has taken part in them, in fact, and in the great struggle that almost wrecked the nation. Endowed by nature with a retentive memory, he has been able to write many accounts of those early days, of his experiences on the battlefield, and of the travels which



*Philip J Wintz*



have occupied part of his later years. His life of activity and deeds of valor are but the just conclusion of the records of his ancestors who braved the perils of a new country in the days of its infancy.

Philip J. Wintz was born in Rappahannock county, Virginia, November 4, 1826, and is a son of Henry and Sarah (Frye) Wintz. The paternal grandfather came from Germany, and the father was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, April 17, 1788. On the 3d of June, 1824, in Loudoun county, Virginia, he was married, by Rev. S. G. Raszell, to Miss Sarah Frye, who was born February 10, 1797. Her father was born August 13, 1775, and came to America in 1793. He died November 20, 1841, and was buried in Middleburg, Loudoun county, Virginia, where he had farmed for some years. During the war of 1812 he was drafted into the army but by the time he had received his accoutrements and had reached Middleburg, the war was closed and his services were not needed. On the 7th of April, 1796, he was united in marriage by Rev. John Littlejohn to Miss Catherine Vertz. Of the family born to this union Mrs. Henry Wintz was the eldest, the others being: Elizabeth, born January 24, 1799, died, unmarried, September 7, 1866; Margaret, born December 12, 1800, became the wife of David Daly, of Preble county, Ohio, and died about 1844; Henry, born April 21, 1803, married Miss Burnside and died in Indiana in 1848; Joseph, born May 14, 1809, remained unmarried and died on the old homestead, July 2, 1876; Conrad, born May 14, 1809, married Susannah Thomas and died in Butler county, Ohio, September 29, 1882; Ann C., born April 30, 1814, wedded Townsend Howell, of Virginia, and died in Clark county, Illinois, February 9, 1886; Christina, born December 27, 1816, died, unmarried, in Loudoun county, Virginia, April 7, 1877; Evaline, born March 12, 1820, became the wife of James Lawson, of Fauquier county, Virginia, and died in Maryland, March 23, 1899; and George P., born October 30, 1823, died in Loudoun county at the age of fifteen. After his marriage Henry Wintz farmed in his native state until 1828, when he moved to Warren county, Ohio, and thence to Preble county, that state, where near New Hope he rented a farm for six years. He died, however, before the expiration of the lease, October 27, 1833, and his wife passed away September 18, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wintz were the parents of five children: Peter, born September 5, 1825, married Catherine Frye and died March 10, 1908; Philip J., is the next in order of birth; Mary Ann, who was born August 22, 1828, became the wife of Samuel Frye and passed away May 25, 1891; Daniel, born June 16, 1831, married Miss Sabina Trucksess, who lives near Converse, Howard county, Indiana, but he died April 13, 1904; and Elizabeth, born March 23, 1833, is the widow of George Lowman of Sedgwick county, Kansas, who died about two years ago.

Philip J. Wintz was but six years of age when his father died and only nineteen when his mother was taken from him. He received a very slight education in the district schools of Preble county, Ohio, which he attended one month a year for fourteen years. The schoolhouse was a log building, in which even the desks and seats were made of split logs set up on pegs. At the age of twenty-four he went to Springboro, Warren county, Ohio, where he secured work on a farm for ten dollars per month, and then took up carpenter work and the trade of a millwright. In April, 1852, he came to Illinois, locating in

Sheffield, Bureau county, where the Rock Island and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroads were then building and where he bought eighty acres of land for three hundred and sixty-seven dollars in cash. It was an unfortunate investment, however, for because of defect in the title, he lost his right to possession. Although somewhat discouraged by this incident, he went to work to make his fortune, borrowing one hundred dollars, with which he went to Chicago to get tools and a carload of lumber. On the 24th of March, 1855, he came to Annawan, and after a short visit in the east he built what is now the kitchen of his present residence. For a year he worked at carpentering and then opened a blacksmith shop, the first in Annawan, on the lot adjoining his present home. He also helped to build the first mill here, which he sold a year later. Until 1884 he devoted his energies to the carpenter's and millwright's trades, constructing the majority of buildings in the southern part of the township, including a church, which he erected in 1858, and a second mill. The last residence which he built was that of James MacChesney, in 1877. During the period between 1854 and 1862 he made the greater number of the coffins in Henry county, two dollars being the smallest price received for one and twenty-five dollars the highest. Being a man of very methodical habits he has kept a record of all the coffins he made, for whom they were intended, and the price paid for each.

After the inauguration of the Civil war Mr. Wintz enlisted at Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, as a musician in a regimental band which had started from St. Louis to join Burgess' sharpshooters at Alton. They were arrested before they reached their destination however, for the reason that the colonel of the regiment they were going to join had reported that they were deserters from the ranks and were going to join the rebels. Upon finding this statement untrue, Governor Yates ordered them to Springfield, and then, after two weeks spent in Camp Butler, sent them to Camp Douglas, Chicago, where the band was assigned to the Fifty-Seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was sent first to Cairo, then to Paducah, Kentucky, whence they went by boat to Fort Henry, arriving there just after the battle, in time to cook their suppers upon the fires which the rebels had left. Returning to Paducah, they went up the Ohio and Cumberland rivers to Fort Donelson and took part in the engagement at that place. Thence they marched fourteen miles to Fort Henry, up the Tennessee River to Krump's Landing, where Mr. Wintz was discharged and mustered out of the service, April 20, 1862. Returning home to Annawan, he enlisted August 20 of the same year, in Company A, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered in at Peoria. John L. Dow was captain, but Tristram T. Dow was first captain and was subsequently made colonel of the regiment and took his men to Cincinnati, then to Covington, Kentucky, where they remained two weeks, and then to Lexington. After a few skirmishes Mr. Wintz was detailed for six months to Captain Low's howitzer battery to follow Morgan's band on their raids through Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, to Buffington's Island, where they captured Morgan's guns, in 1863. This campaign being closed he rejoined his old company and went to Kingston and Athens, Tennessee, and later to Loudoun, where in a skirmish on Hiawasi River they retreated before General Longstreet, who pursued them to Knoxville. There in



Mary Mintz



a battle or skirmish on the 18th of November, 1863, Captain Asa H. Lee, commander of Company A, was killed, and Mr. Wintz received a gunshot wound behind his right ear, making a total of four of the company killed and two wounded. When Mr. Wintz regained consciousness after having received his wound he found that the Confederate line had advanced beyond him, thus cutting him from his companions. Making his way through a small vineyard he got through the line, though twenty gunshots were fired at him, and then crawled into a barn, and when this was struck by a rebel gun, crawled in a corn crib. This too was torn to pieces by a shell and the man forced to continue his painful way outdoors. He staggered through the timber to his company, but on the way to the field hospital he fell exhausted on the bank of Second creek, where the ambulance corps found him. Mr. Wintz was then confined to the hospital at Knoxville, Tennessee, until January 18, after which he was given a thirty days' furlough. In March, at Mt. Sterling, he rejoined his company and participated in the skirmishes at Rocky Face, Georgia, and in the battle of Resaca, in which he received a gunshot wound in his right arm, which necessitated his being sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where he remained until July, when, having contracted smallpox, he was sent to a hospital near Louisville, in which he was confined until October, 1864. Starting then to rejoin his regiment at Atlanta, he stayed a couple weeks in Chattanooga, where he was on duty in the convalescent camp and was then detailed with orders to drive ten thousand head of cattle to Atlanta for Sherman's army. At Altoona he met his company returning and joining them he went to Nashville and later to Decatur, Georgia, where the company was stationed to watch the movements of Hood. They took part in the battle of Franklin and then Nashville, December, 1864, and followed Hood for one month to Columbia, Tennessee. At Clifton, on the Tennessee River they boarded a steamer and went to Cincinnati, thence by rail to Alexandria, Virginia, by way of Columbus and Bellaire, and then by steamer to Fort Fisher. During a storm in the last stage of this journey the vessels were blown sixty miles into the sea. After one month spent in Fort Fisher, the company went to Smithville, North Carolina, taking part in the skirmish at that place and in the siege and capture of Fort Anderson, and going thence to Wilmington and Kingston, North Carolina. At the last named place Mr. Wintz sprained his ankle and was sent to the hospital for the third time, remaining there for a month, or until he was honorably discharged June 14, 1865. Since the close of the war Mr. Wintz has been a member of the Grand Army and has attended more than a dozen of the national encampments, the last having been that at Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1909. In these, where the soldiers from the whole country congregate, he revives with his comrades the stories of the camp fires and the events of battle.

On returning from the war, Mr. Wintz worked at the carpenter's and millwright's trades as in the days before the struggle. But more and more time he has given to his literary labors. Possessed of a fine style and relying upon his excellent memory for the facts which are not recorded in his notebooks he has written very readable histories of Annawan township and of the old settlers. Of recent years he has been compelled to use a typewriter, though not so formerly, for he wrote a beautiful, clear English hand, unsurpassed by few of his genera-

tion and unequaled in this. He kept a record of all his contracts, of his war experiences, of his travels, and of his church. A copy of his history of Annawan and Albion townships he sent to the Old Settlers Association in Geneseo, where it is accounted a work of value.

On the 8th of April, 1852, Mr. Wintz wedded Miss Mary Frye. She was born near Springboro, Ohio, January 16, 1830, and was the daughter of Solomon and Sarah (Haynes) Frye. The former, who was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, October 12, 1800, was the son of Henry Joseph and Catherine (Weideman) Frye, and the nephew of Philip J. Frye, the maternal granduncle of Mr. Wintz. He moved to Ohio with his parents at the age of sixteen and learned the trade of a carpenter and also engaged in farming on land that he owned. He married, March 12, 1826, Miss Sarah Haynes, a native of Rappahannock, Virginia, who was born October 12, 1803, and came from an old American family of German extraction. Of this union were born four children: Cornelius, who worked at the carpenter's trade and died in Dayton at about forty years of age; Mary, who became the wife of Philip J. Wintz, of this review; Martha, who married Absalom Blinn and removed to Albany, Kansas, where both died; and Margaret, who married George Roy, both now deceased. Solomon Frye died in Warren county, Ohio, October 6, 1846.

Mrs. Wintz has also passed away, her death occurring November 29, 1898, and is buried in Fair View cemetery, where her mother is likewise buried. Although a woman who never enjoyed the best of health, she was very active, a great sewer, and of a bright disposition. She was a good wife, a kind neighbor and beloved by all. With her husband she belonged to the United Brethren church and has been greatly missed since her death.

Mr. Wintz is the only son-in-law of his wife's parents now living, and is himself without offspring. Since his wife's demise he has lived alone in the house he built, a good structure, twenty-eight by eighteen feet, with eighteen foot studding for two full stories, with a large kitchen of one story, sixteen by twenty-two feet. It is located on Depot and Second streets. He now conducts a shop for the repair of furniture, organs, sewing machine, parasols and in fact of everything that can be repaired, for he is almost a genius at this kind of work. He is also engaged in superintending the building of the new town hall, a brick construction with cement foundation, of which Howard Fritzkee is the contractor. A member of the United Brethren church, he has been secretary and treasurer of their quarterly conferences, of which he has written the histories. In politics he is a republican and cast his first ballot for Zachary Taylor in 1848, the day before he became twenty-one, all the voters in the locality having agreed to accord him that privilege. Mr. Wintz presented to The American's Yeoman League a lot adjoining his own fifty-four by one hundred and fifty feet in the town of Annawan, on which will be built a chapter house. Though eighty-two years of age he still retains the love of music that inspired him as a young man. In other ways also the years have not affected him, for he sees without the use of glasses and is not troubled by his hearing. He is a self-made man, and this may be emphasized, for almost without any schooling he has become a good, fluent writer, a master in the repair shop, and a man of wealth in the community, owning considerable property, including one hundred and

seventy acres in Wilson county, Kansas. His judgment is regarded so highly and his memory is so accurate that the citizens of Annawan have become accustomed to referring dubious points and questions to him for settlement. Yet he is modest as regards his accomplishments, and in his cheery way disclaims any undue praise for what he is, and for what he has done, either for himself or his country.

---

### JAMES F. CLARK.

Among Henry county's citizens who have passed the seventieth milestone on life's journey is James F. Clark, of Geneseo, who since 1874 has been engaged in business here as a contractor and builder. He is now seventy-six years of age and many men of his years would put aside business cares but he is still active and enterprising and remains a valued factor in the world's work. He was born in Pennsylvania, March 13, 1833, and is a son of John and Margaret (Maxwell) Clark, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer by occupation and devoted his entire life to tilling the soil in the Keystone state where both he and his wife died and now lie buried. They were the parents of eleven children, but only two are now living, the younger brother being William Clark, a resident of Dallas Center, Iowa. There were three sons who served in the Civil war at one time, Samuel, William and Robert, and Robert held the rank of captain. William participated in the battle of Antietam and Fredericksburg, and at the last named Samuel McMahan, a cousin of our subject, was killed.

James F. Clark, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and soon after completing his studies learned the trade of carpentering. He followed that pursuit in his native state for five years and then came to Illinois in 1856, settling first in Stephenson county, where he engaged in carpentering for three years. He then worked at his trade in the city of Champaign, Illinois, for three years and it was about that time that he was married and established a home of his own.

On the 29th of December, 1859, Mr. Clark was joined in wedlock to Miss Anna Kerr, who was born in Pennsylvania but went with her parent to Stephenson county, Illinois. She was a daughter of Alexander and Catherine Kerr, who came to this state in 1846. Her father was a farmer and continued his residence in Stephenson county until his death. His wife also passed away there and their graves were made in one of its cemeteries. Their family numbered the following children: Mary Jane, now the wife of Jesse McKibben, a resident of Stephenson county; Mrs. Clark; Joseph, who is living in the state of Washington; William, a resident of Indiana; Cooper, who was in the Civil war and is now living at the Soldiers Home in Quincy, Illinois; Elizabeth, the wife of George Johnson, who resides at Gladbrook, Iowa; Frank, who lives in Ridott, Stephenson county, Illinois.

After his marriage James F. Clark resided at Lanark, Illinois, for a number of years and was engaged in building operations there. He afterward removed

to Annawan, Henry county, where he dealt in butter and eggs for five years. He then came to Geneseo in 1874 and for thirty-five years has been engaged in carpentering and contracting in this place. He has erected the greater part of the best and most modern homes in the city and also built a church in Green River. He is now the senior member of the firm of J. F. Clark & Sons, and they employ a number of workmen. Mr. Clark's own practical experience has well enabled him to direct the labors of others and as the years have gone by he has made substantial progress, winning desirable success and at the same time contributing to the welfare and improvement of the communities in which he lived and labored.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Clark have been born six children, of whom four are now living. Mary is the wife of James Siebert, a resident of South Dakota and they have four daughters: Mabel, who is now Mrs. Trumb; Hazel, the wife of Byron Souer, of South Dakota; Myrtle and Ruth, at home. Alexander K. Clark, the second member of the family is now engaged in business with his father. He married Anna Ogden and has two children—Mary and Grace. William D., who is also in business with his father in Geneseo, married Bertha Bessie and they have five children—Ferry, Morris, John, Audrey and Shirley. James F., the youngest of the family is married and lives in California. He is an expert mechanic and a carpenter by trade, having learned the trade with his father as did his two brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark are both members of the Presbyterian church, in good standing and are people of genuine personal worth, enjoying in high measure the regard of all who know them. Mr. Clark is a fine mechanic, turning out nothing but the best work and at all times using the best material, and many buildings erected under his skillful guidance stand as monuments to his ability. He is, moreover, a man of unquestioned business integrity and his word is as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal. Mr. Clark has built and sold a number of modern homes in Geneseo and now has a handsome residence equipped with all of the conveniences of the twentieth-century home. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished for he had no assistance when he started out in life for himself. He resolved to make his labor of value to others and, becoming an excellent workman, has always been enabled to command good prices for his services. He has long been numbered among the leading contractors and builders of Geneseo and his worth as a man and citizen are also widely acknowledged.

---

### JOHN RINGLE.

John Ringle, who since March, 1900, has lived retired in Cambridge, was for many years actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Henry county. His birth occurred in Minersville, Pennsylvania, on the 21st of May, 1841, his parents being Joseph and Mary Ann (Whitesell) Ringle, likewise natives of the Keystone state. The paternal grandfather, Mathias Ringle, was a Revolutionary soldier and took up his abode in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where his son Joseph was born. The mother of Joseph Ringle

bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Clawson and lived to an advanced age. Mathias Ringle, who was twice married and reared a family of twenty-one children, passed away when sixty-seven years of age. Jonathan Whitesell, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Pennsylvania and followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He and his wife died in that state when well advanced in years. They had five children.

Joseph Ringle, the father of John Ringle, was a coal miner and owned a number of teams, hauling coal into Pittsburg. Having determined to establish his home in this state, he first sent his son James to Henry county with four horses and a wagon and in the spring of 1857 came here with the other members of the family. They took up their abode on a rented farm in Munson township and later the father purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township, where he reared his children. During the last fifteen years of his life he lived retired in Cambridge, having won a comfortable competence through the careful conduct of his agricultural interests. His demise, which occurred at the home of his son William in Osco township, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His wife, who survived him, was called to her final rest on the 3d of December, 1898, when eighty-four years of age. They were both devoted and faithful members of the Presbyterian church. Their union was blessed with nine children, seven of whom still survive, namely: James; John, of this review; Catharine, the widow of Harrison Moore, of Newton, Iowa; William, a resident of Cambridge; Louisa, the widow of A. J. Combs, of Cambridge; Mary, the widow of J. C. Sherrard, of Cambridge; and David, living in Geneseo township.

John Ringle, who obtained his education in the district schools, was a lad of sixteen years when he came with his parents to Henry county, Illinois, and grew to manhood on his father's farm in Osco township. On the 10th of September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company C. Ninth Illinois Cavalry, with which he served for a little more than three years. He participated in the battles of Tupelo, Franklin and Nashville and also took part in numerous skirmishes, ever proving a most brave and loyal soldier. When hostilities had ceased he returned to Henry county and engaged in farming for two years, on the expiration of which period he removed to Caldwell county, Missouri, where he was identified with agricultural pursuits for four years. At the end of that time he returned to this county and purchased a partly improved farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Osco township, on which he made his home until the spring of 1883. After disposing of that property he bought a tract of land of one hundred and seventeen acres lying a mile north of Cambridge and successfully continued its cultivation and improvement until March, 1900, when he took up his abode in Cambridge, where he has since lived retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

On the 28th of February, 1867, Mr. Ringle was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Humphrey, who was born in New York city on the 31st of March, 1844, her parents being Nicholas and Sophia (Van Allan) Humphrey, both natives of Canada. The father was of French parentage and the mother came of German lineage. Of their family of ten children, seven lived to attain years of maturity and two still survive, namely: Mrs. J. M. Loomis, of Missouri; and Mrs. John

Ringle. Nicholas Humphrey passed away in New York city in 1862, at the venerable age of ninety-eight years, and the demise of his wife occurred in the year 1847. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ringle have been born three daughters, as follows: Annie L., who is now the wife of Daniel Conneghy, by whom she has three children—Ora, Clayton and Lela; Ida A., who is the wife of Charles C. Curtis and has four children—Delia, Mabel, John and Chester; and Kate L., who gave her hand in marriage to Thomas M. Neville and has two children—Gladys and Mildred.

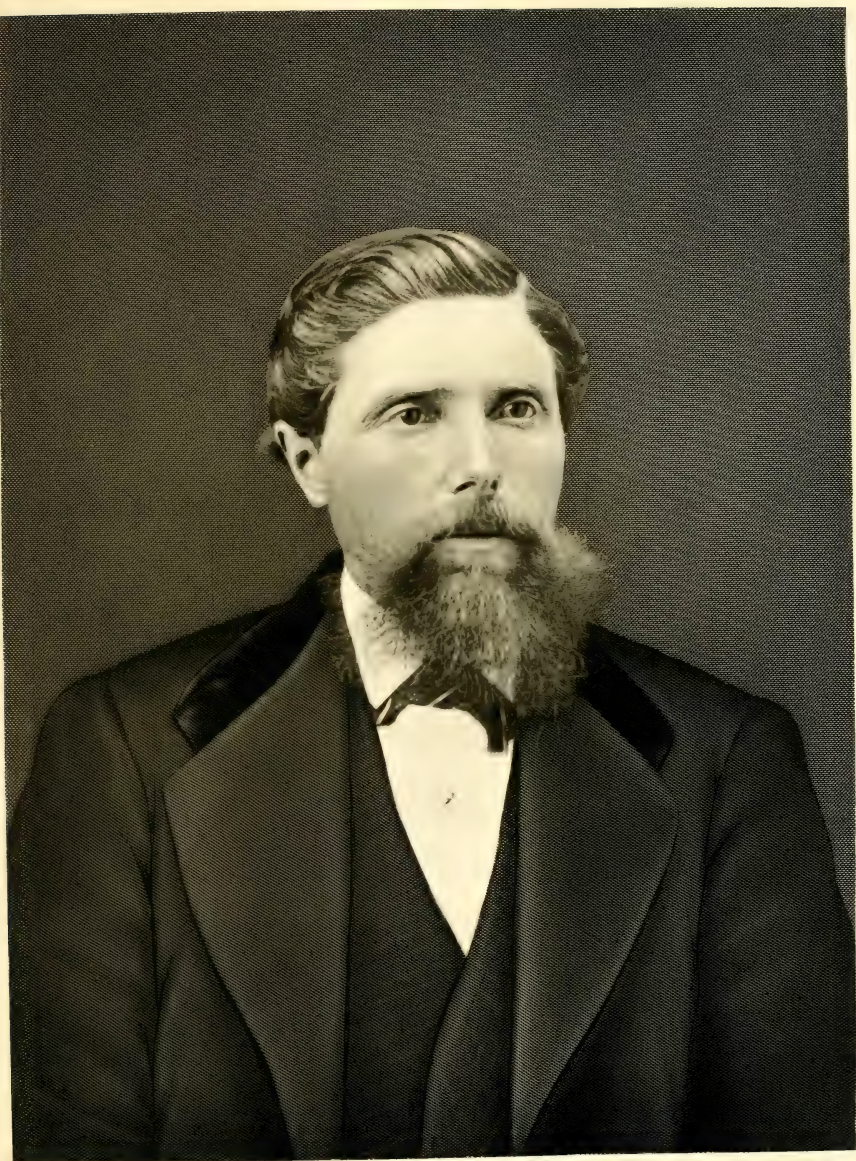
Politically Mr. Ringle is a stalwart advocate of the republican party. He still maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the G. A. R., and while in the service belonged to the Union League. His wife is a faithful and exemplary member of the Congregational church. He has long resided in this county and, owing to his upright and honorable career, enjoys in unqualified measure the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

---

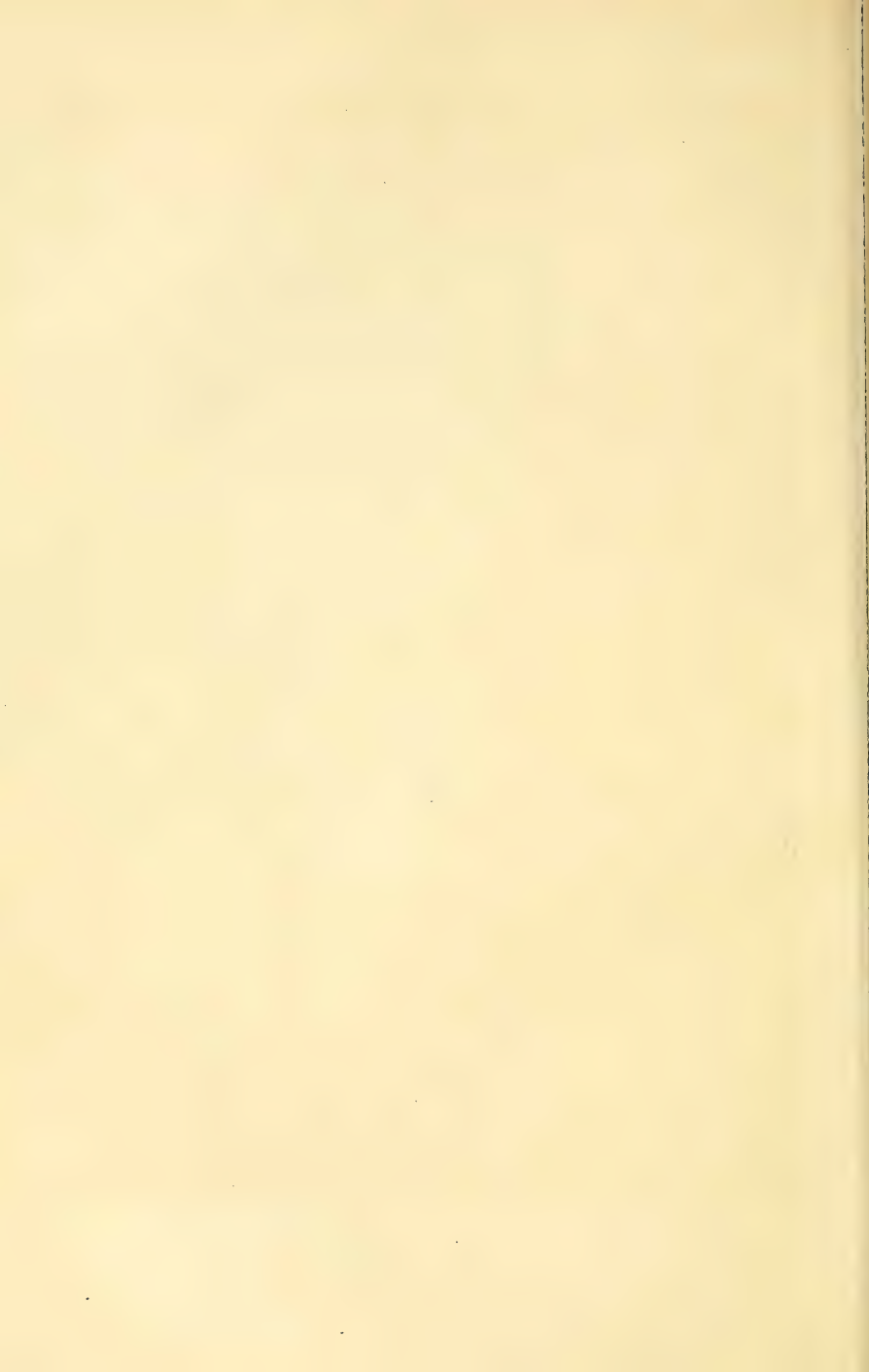
### WILLIAM WALKER.

William Walker, a prominent and well-to-do farmer of Munson township who, although he has already reached the seventy-third milestone on life's journey, is still active in the world's work, has, with one exception, probably lived in one place longer than any other resident of the township, having removed to his present location in 1865. A native of Scotland, he was born in Aberdeen in the year 1836, his parents being James and Ellen (Stewart) Walker, and is the fifth in order of birth in a family of seven children, all of whom grew to maturity, the others being: James, who was killed by a runaway team in Iowa; David; John, who passed away while living in Grank Forks, North Dakota, leaving a family to mourn his loss; Alexander; Ellen, who is the widow of James Richmond and resides in Orient, Iowa; and George.

William Walker was still quite young when he lost both parents and was about seventeen years of age when he left the land of hills and heather and came to America in company with his eldest brother, James. They remained with relatives in Canada for a time and then spent one or more years in Indiana, after which, in 1857, they came to Illinois. Upon arriving in this country he had nothing but the clothes he wore, and he possessed little more than that when he came to Henry county. Undaunted, however, and eager and willing to work, he borrowed sufficient money to purchase a team and became engaged in agricultural pursuits in the capacity of a renter, continuing thus for some time. In 1864 in connection with his brother John he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, William Walker taking possession of the south half of the property. John Walker soon afterward married and William made his home with his brother and his wife for a short time. He then bought his brother's share in the farm and has since been sole owner. At one time the interest on his purchase was over a dollar a day. His property now consists of two hundred and forty-eight acres located on section 9, Munson township, and constitutes one of the highly improved and valuable farms of the township. The first house built upon the place,



*William Walker*



in 1854, is still standing, while the more modern and attractive dwelling which he now occupies was erected some time in the '90s. Mr. Walker has confined his attention to general agricultural pursuits, practicing rotation of crops and studying the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and with the passing of the years he has been preeminently successful, his industry and enterprise bringing to him a most substantial degree of prosperity. He possesses excellent business ability and his farming interests have been so carefully and wisely managed that he is today numbered among the substantial and wealthy agriculturists of his section of the county.

Mr. Walker has been a stalwart republican from the time he cast his first ballot, although the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has preferred to concentrate his energies upon the conduct of his personal affairs. The loss of his parents at an early age made it necessary for him to forego the advantages offered by a school education in order to earn his own livelihood, but he has ever been a great reader and has kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day, while through experience and observation he has gained a broad general knowledge which has made his a well rounded nature. For more than four decades he has resided in Henry county and in the meantime has witnessed the work of advancement and improvement being carried on within its borders, while at all times he has lent his influence to all matters having for their object the substantial and permanent upbuilding and growth of the community. His has been a long and active business career and now, although he has already passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, he is still an active factor in the world's work and occupies a foremost place among the honored and valued citizens of Munson township.

---

### JOSEPH M. McCONNELL.

Joseph M. McConnell, one of the prosperous farmers and public-spirited citizens of Clover township, was born here, December 28, 1857, being a son of William and Catherine (Morthland) McConnell. The parents came to Clover township from Path Valley, Pennsylvania, in 1855, when the settlers were few and far between. They made the trip by railroad to Altoona, Pennsylvania, taking there an ox wagon to complete their journey. Arriving in Clover township, they settled on the unbroken prairie, enduring all the hardships of the pioneers of Illinois. Fortunately, however, for them prosperity attended their efforts, the father entering a considerable amount of government land which he developed into a valuable farm. His death occurred January 1, 1870, but his widow survived him until August, 1905, when she joined him in the better world and all that remains of their earthly habitation lies side by side in the local cemetery at Summit Level. Nine children were born to them, five daughters and four sons, of whom Joseph M. is the youngest.

The subject of this review grew to manhood upon the homestead, assisting his father and attending the country schools. In 1888 he married Amanda Perego, a daughter of David and Sarah Perego, residents of Clover township

who came here from Ohio in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. McConnell have six children, namely: Nellie M., a teacher; and Blanch W., Daisy P., Grace O., Frank E. and Katie L., all at home.

Mr. McConnell has always lived in Clover township and now owns two hundred acres of valuable land, on which he raises stock and carries on general farming. Politically he is a democrat, but while interested in public affairs he is not in any sense an office seeker. Public spirited, he favors improvements that will bring about better conditions and advance the general welfare of his community. Although his parents were devout Presbyterians and he was brought up in that faith, he belongs to no church and is connected with no societies. Mrs. McConnell and four eldest daughters are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church. A splendid farmer, who understands thoroughly every detail of his work, prosperous in his undertakings and honorable in all of his dealings, Mr. McConnell stands high in the estimation of his fellow citizens.

---

### GRANT D. OLLSON.

Grant D. Ollson, owning and operating a farm of ninety-five acres on section 17, Geneseo township, was born in Hanna township, Henry county, Illinois, in 1868. His parents, Andrew and Lucinda (Nesbaum) Ollson, are natives of Sweden and Indiana respectively. The paternal grandfather of our subject was likewise a native of Sweden. The maternal grandfather, Daniel Nesbaum, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation. He wedded Miss Elizabeth Stein, and they became early settlers of Jones county, Iowa, where the wife died at the age of fifty-four years. Subsequently he took up his abode in Henry county, Illinois, where he passed away when eighty-four years of age, his demise occurring in Geneseo. His family numbered six children, of whom Mrs. Lucinda Ollson is now the only survivor. When twelve years of age Andrew Ollson, the father of Grant D. Ollson, crossed the Atlantic to the United States, in company with two brothers, and settled in Hanna township, Henry county, Illinois. When about sixteen years of age he enlisted for service as a soldier in the Civil war, thus loyally defending the interests of the Union until the close of hostilities. After returning from the army he became identified with general agricultural pursuits in Hanna township as a renter and subsequently purchased a tract of ninety-two acres, which he improved. Both he and his wife now make their home in Geneseo and are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community where they have long resided. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party, and his wife is a devoted member of the Grace Evangelical church. They have reared a family of seven sons namely: Grant D., Charles, Louis, Hollie, Richard, LeRoy and Archie.

Grant D. Ollson was reared on his father's farm in this county, attending the district schools in pursuit of an education. He left home at the age of fifteen years and has since made his own way in the world, winning success as the result of his untiring, persistent and well directed labor. He first began working as a farm hand by the month and subsequently operated a rented tract of land for

two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased his present farm of ninety-five acres on section 17, Geneseo township, situated northwest of the corporate limits of Geneseo. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has gained a gratifying measure of prosperity by reason of his unwearied industry, perseverance and capable management.

On the 30th of November, 1893, Mr. Ollson was united in marriage to Miss Hattie L. Garrison, whose birth occurred near Rochester, New York, April 22, 1870, her parents being Robinson P. and Harriet Lucy (Davis) Garrison, also natives of the Empire state. Her maternal grandfather, Nathaniel D. Davis, who was likewise born in the state of New York, passed away when seventy-three years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Clarissa M. Satterly, was eighty-four years of age when called to her final rest. Of their family of seven children only one survives—Mrs. William Patrick, a resident of Mena, Arkansas. Mrs. Ollson lost her mother when but nine days old and when four years of age was left an orphan by the death of her father. She was then reared by her maternal grandparents in Henry county, this state, until fourteen years of age, when she went to live with her aunt in Geneseo township. She has made her home in this county continuously since 1874 and has a wide acquaintance within its borders. By her marriage she has become the mother of one son, George Dewey Ollson.

Mr. Ollson gives his political allegiance to the republican party, while fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias. His wife is a Congregationalist in religious faith. Mr. Ollson has spent his entire life in this county and is therefore familiar with its development from pioneer times down to the present, having aided in the arduous toil which brought about the wonderful transformation that is everywhere apparent in this part of the state.

---

#### GEORGE W. WILLIAMS.

George W. Williams, who since 1901 has acted as manager for the Galva Grain Elevator Company of Galva, was born in London, England, on the 2d of January, 1837. His parents were Thomas and Emma (Bentley) Williams, the former a native of Mortlake, Surrey county, England, while the latter's birth occurred at Stanstead, Hertfordshire, England. The paternal grandfather, George Williams, who was a native of England and a potter by trade, passed away in 1840. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Williams, also died in England. They reared a family of six children, five sons and one daughter. William Bentley, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was likewise a native of the Merrie isle. Unto him and his wife were born five children.

Thomas Williams, the father of George W. Williams, was a market gardener and salesman in his native country. In December, 1851, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Victoria, Knox county, Illinois, and in August, 1852, was joined by his wife and children. His demise occurred in November, 1873, at the age of sixty

years, while his wife passed away in February, 1878, when sixty-eight years of age. They were both devoted members of the Church of England. Their union was blessed with eight children, six of whom still survive, namely: George W., of this review; Mary Ann, the wife of J. B. Freed, of California; Thomas E., a resident of Lathrop, Missouri; Walter H., living in Victoria, Illinois; Emily, the wife of L. D. Blackwood, of Lathrop, Missouri; and Alfred Charles, who also makes his home in Victoria, Illinois.

George W. Williams remained a resident of England until his sixteenth year, obtaining a good practical education in the common schools of that country. In 1852 he came to the United States in company with his mother and the other children of the family and continued to reside on his father's farm near Victoria, Illinois, until twenty years of age. He then made his way to what was then Calhoun county, now Jackson county, Kansas, and preempted a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of government land. After residing thereon for three years he returned to Knox county, Illinois, in November, 1860, and there made his home until 1864. Subsequently he spent two years in Kentucky in the telegraph department of the government service and after returning to this state followed farming in Knox county for two years. The year 1869 witnessed his arrival in Galva, Henry county, where he was successfully engaged in the grain business until 1878. Subsequently he was engaged in the grain trade at Aledo, Mercer county, for ten years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Galva and here carried on his interests as a grain merchant until 1892. In that year he again went to Aledo but in October, 1901, returned to Galva and has since been identified with the business interests of this place as manager for the Galva Grain Elevator Company. He is widely recognized as a man of keen discrimination, sound judgment and excellent executive ability and is numbered among the most substantial and respected citizens of the community. In early manhood, during the years 1859, 1861 and 1862, he was engaged in teaching school, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired.

On the 10th of December, 1866, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Azelia Helen Annis, a native of Knox county and a daughter of Eleson and Catharine (Meroe) Annis, both of whom were born in Maine and became early settlers of Knox county, this state. The father followed farming as a life work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Annis were born eleven children, five of whom still survive, as follows: Mrs. Mary Bonar; Mrs. Julia Ann Starboard; J. K.; Ellen Collinson; and Mrs. Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of seven children, three sons and four daughters: Minnie, living in Alberta, Canada, who is the wife of Robert B. Holmes, by whom she has two children—Vera Pauline and Robert I.; Thomas E., who is a resident of Riverside, California, and wedded Miss Robertina Mills on the 10th of June, 1909; Kate, who resides near La Fayette and is the wife of Fred L. Keim, by whom she has four sons—Forrest, Fred, Rolland and Harold; Fred, living in Lushton, Nebraska, who married Miss Katie Strater and has two children—Grace and John Frederick; Ruth, who is at home; George, who is an electrical engineer residing at Muskogee, Oklahoma; and Grace, also at home. The last named has been a student in the Illinois University at Champaign for three years and won a scholarship in a contest.

Politically Mr. Williams is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the democracy. He was on the school board for a number of years and also capably served his fellow townsmen as a member of the city council. He was made a Mason in Kansas in November, 1858 and now belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and Cyrus Chapter, No. 211, R. A. M., of Aledo. Both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. They have a commodious and attractive residence in the western part of town which is a favorite resort with their many friends.

---

### JOHN F. LAWSON.

John F. Lawson is a successful farmer and stockman of Western township, his home being on section 10, where he owns a large acreage. He was born on a farm near the little village of Linkoping, Sweden, May 20, 1856, a son of Johannas and Gustava (Pierson) Lawson, who were farming people of that country. The mother died in Sweden but the father still survives, hale and hearty, at the advanced age of eighty-one years, and makes his home with our subject.

John F. Lawson was reared to the pursuits of the home farm and acquired his education in the common schools. When he reached his majority he was called for service in the Swedish army, in which he participated for two years. When twenty-four years old, foreseeing no future for him in Sweden, and having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities in America, he decided to try his fortune in the new world. In the fall of 1880, after a voyage of eleven days on the Atlantic, he first set foot on American soil, arriving in New York city. He had a brother, Charles Lawson, who was living in Henry county and our subject made his way direct to this place. He immediately began work as a farm hand and in this way gained his start in Henry county. When he felt that he had a sum that would justify him in engaging in farming on his own account he rented a tract of land and operated the same for twenty years. In the meantime, he had prepared a home for the lady whom he expected to make his wife and having sent for her, they were married at Crampton Station, Henry county, on the 29th of May, 1884. She bore the maiden name of Gustava Wilhelmina Larson.

Mrs. Lawson proved a valuable helpmate to her young husband and through their united efforts they were enabled in the fall of 1899 to purchase his present farm of two hundred acres, paying for it forty-eight and a half dollars per acre. Mr. Lawson continued for some time to operate a rented tract in addition to his newly acquired possessions but now gives his attention to his own two hundred acres. He has erected nearly all of the buildings on the place and in 1907 built his fine, modern residence, which is one of the best country homes in Western township.

Two daughters grace the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson: Agnes; and Esther, who is a graduate of the Orion high school of the class of 1909. She is now engaged in teaching in the home school. Mr. Lawson is a republican but aside from acting as school director for the past twelve years, he has filled no public

office. He and the members of his family are identified with the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he is now serving as a deacon. True to the interests of his adopted country, Mr. Lawson is classed with the best citizens of Western township, where he has now made his home for almost three decades.

---

### ROY SCOTT BROWN.

Roy Scott Brown, an enterprising and progressive agriculturist and stockman of Osco township, has been actively engaged in the operation of a farm of two hundred and eighty acres on section 13 since 1904. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Henry county, having been born on the old family homestead on section 15, Osco township, on the 5th of January, 1881, a son of James Monroe and Martha E. (Myers) Brown. He was reared to manhood on the home farm and supplemented his preliminary education by attendance at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute during one fall and two winter seasons. In 1904 he took charge of his uncle's farm of two hundred and eighty acres on section 13, Osco township, and has since devoted his time and energies to its operation with excellent success. In addition to cultivating the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also devotes some attention to the feeding and shipping of cattle and is a young man of good business ability and sound judgment. In August, 1908, he bought a Reo automobile, his brother having purchased one of these cars in the previous October. In 1909 the brothers began selling the machine and disposed of seven during the summer of that year.

On the 16th of January, 1907, in Cambridge, Mr. Brown was joined in wedlock to Miss Elnora Hornecker, a native of Edford township, this county, and a daughter of Martin and Martha (Schumaker) Hornecker. Their union has been blessed with one child, Marjorie, whose birth occurred on the 31st of August, 1908. Mr. Brown is a staunch republican in his political views and cast his first presidential vote for Theodore Roosevelt in 1904. Both he and his wife are well known and highly esteemed throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives and have an extensive circle of warm friends who entertain for them the kindest regard.

---

### ALEXANDER K. CLARK.

In a history of the building operations of Geneseo it is imperative that definite mention be made of Alexander K. Clark, a member of the well known firm of J. F. Clark & Sons. He was born March 15, 1862, at Ridott, Stephenson county, Illinois, and is a son of James F. Clark, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Following the removal of the family to Annawan, Henry county, Illinois, he pursued his education in the schools of that place and when he put aside his text-books he began learning his trade with his father who was very thorough and systematic in teaching him so that he acquired

a practical knowledge of the business, well qualifying him for the work which he undertook as he entered the firm in partnership relation. The greater number of the best buildings in Geneseo during the past thirty-five years have been erected by this firm, a fact which is indicative of their standing in building circles.

Alexander K. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Anna R. Ogden, a sketch of whose father, John Ogden, appears elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Clark was born September 27, 1867, in Henry county, and it was on the 29th of November, 1888, that she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Clark. Their union has been blessed with four children: two sons who died in infancy; Mary Ethel, who was born May 23, 1893, and is now in school; and Grace Elizabeth, born May 18, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Clark occupy an attractive modern residence, which is, moreover, the abode of warm-hearted hospitality. They have many friends in the county and are greatly esteemed by all who know them. Mr. Clark is a man of unquestioned business probity as well as enterprise, to be depended upon under all conditions, and the success which he has attained is well merited.

---

#### F. WILLIAM FUERST.

F. William Fuerst, whose time and energies are given to the operation of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres on section 26, Kewanee township, was born in that township on the 9th of July, 1872, a son of August and Augusta Fuerst. He supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the district school of his home locality, by a year's course of study at Elmhurst, Illinois. After returning to this county he was associated with his father in the cultivation of the home farm until the latter retired and took up his abode in Kewanee in March, 1901. At that time Mr. Fuerst of this review took possession of the home place and has since given his attention to its further cultivation and improvement with excellent success. The property comprises three hundred and twenty acres of valuable and productive land, and in addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate Mr. Fuerst also makes a specialty of stock raising, selling about one hundred and fifty head of hogs annually. Since the farm has been under his direct supervision he has built a tenant house, a substantial barn and also a corn crib, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the enterprising and progressive spirit of the owner. The shaft and works of the Kewanee Coal Mining Company are located on the property.

On the 21st of February, 1901, at Kewanee, Mr. Fuerst was joined in wedlock to Miss Alma N. Kuester, a daughter of William F. Kuester, who is a farmer by occupation and was numbered among the early settlers of Kewanee township. Mr. and Mrs. Fuerst are now the parents of four children, as follows: Else N. and Delia E., seven and six years of age respectively, who are now attending school; Martina A., who is three years old; and Margarete A., whose birth occurred on the 10th of January, 1909.

When exercising his right of franchise Mr. Fuerst is not bound by party ties but supports men and measures that he believes will best conserve the general

welfare. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion and he has held the office of school director for one term. Both he and his wife are faithful and devoted members of the German Lutheran church and take an active and helpful interest in its work. Having resided in this county throughout his entire life, he is well and favorably known here and his straightforward and honorable dealings have won for him the warm regard and esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

---

### THOMAS SCOTT BROWN.

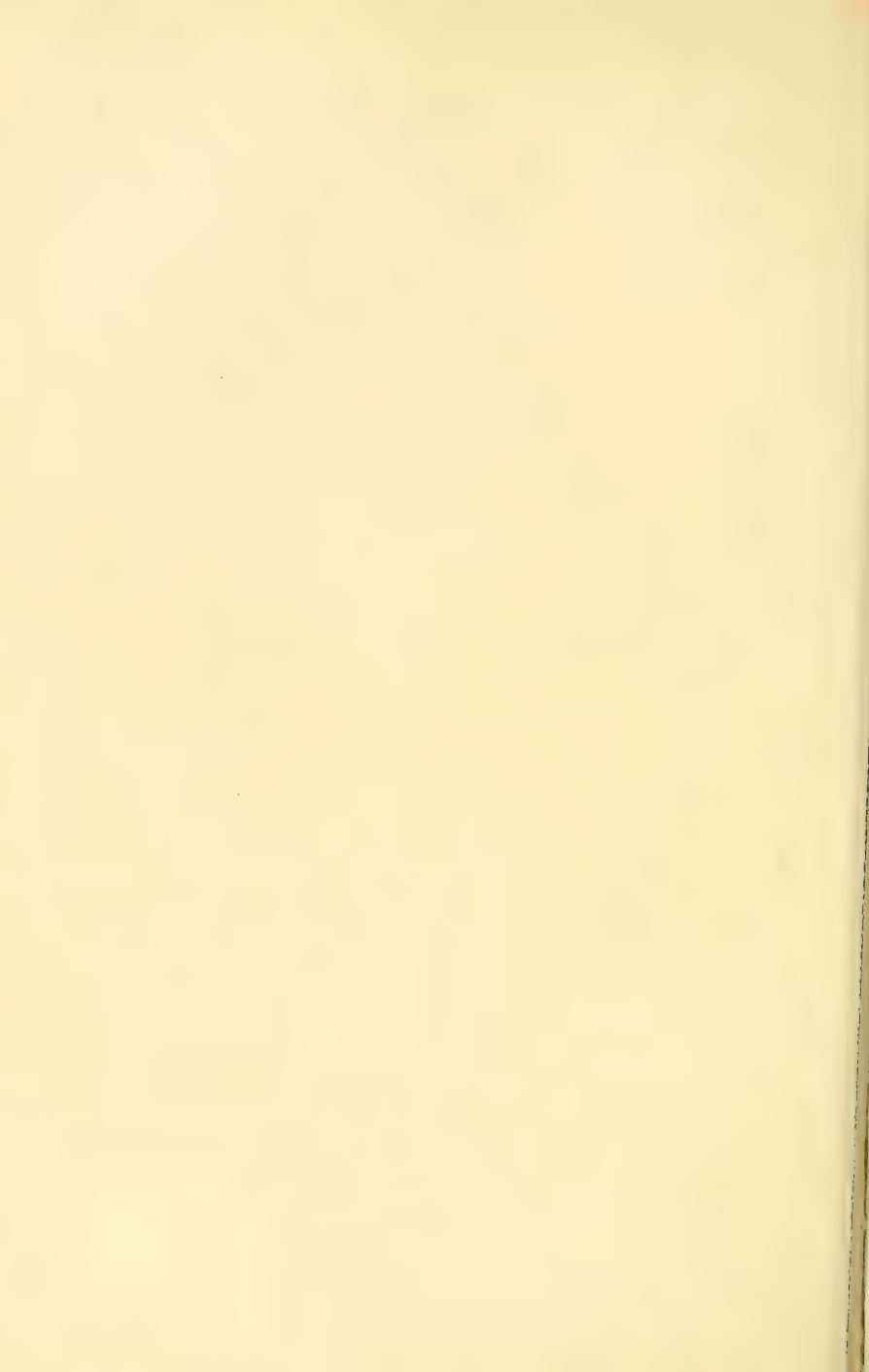
Reared amid pioneer environments in Illinois, serving as a soldier in the Union army in the Civil war, and since that time devoting his attention to farming interests in Henry county—such in brief is the life history of Thomas Scott Brown, who is now living retired in Osco township, where for the past thirty-five years he has maintained his home. He was born in Fulton county, Illinois, June 7, 1835, when the work of progress and development had scarcely been begun in this section of the state. Much of the land was still unclaimed and uncultivated, comparatively few roads had been laid out and the railroads had not yet been built. In fact only three years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy in this part of Illinois. The native timber was uncut and but few furrows had been turned on the prairies. Many of the homes were log cabins and others were primitive frame structures with comparatively few conveniences or modern improvements.

The parents of Mr. Brown were John and Sarah (Kirkpatrick) Brown, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. The former was a weaver by trade and in 1835 came to Illinois, settling in Fulton county, where he and his brother, Cunningham Brown, had each purchased a quarter section of land. He transformed the raw prairie into productive fields and lived there for many years, but in the early '70s removed to Henry county and settled in Osco township, where he died in 1880 at the age of eighty-three years and nine months. His wife survived him for six or eight years and was eighty-three years and four months of age at the time of her demise. Their lives were actuated by Christian faith and they were long consistent members of the Presbyterian church. They had a family of five sons and one daughter: Thomas Scott, of this review; John G., of Marshalltown, Iowa; and Mary, the wife of Walker L. Hitchcock, of Orion, Illinois. George C., James M. and an infant son are deceased.

Thomas Scott Brown spent his youthful days amid the conditions which existed during the pioneer epoch in the history of Illinois, pursuing his education in one of the old time log schoolhouses where, seated on a slab bench, he conned his lessons. The curriculum, however, consisted of little more than the "three R's—readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetic." As the years have passed, however, varied experiences have broadened his knowledge and made up for the deficiency of the primitive schools. He remained at home until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself by renting land. In that way he carried on farming until he was able to purchase property. At the time of the Civil war,



J. Scott Brown



however, he put aside all business and personal considerations and offered his services to the government, enlisting on the 9th of August, 1862, as a member of Company G, One Hundred and Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He remained with the regiment until honorably discharged on the 24th of June, 1865. He was wounded near Columbia, South Carolina, and lost his right arm February 15, 1865. He participated in all of the important battles from Chattanooga to the sea, seeing active duty under General Logan in the Fifteenth Army Corps. When he lost his arm he was hauled from Columbia, South Carolina, to Fayetteville, North Carolina, where on the 12th of March, 1865, he took a boat that went by way of the Cape Fear river to Wilmington, Delaware. He was then taken to Grant's Hospital on Long Island, and was honorably discharged on the 24th of June, following, holding at the time the rank of first sergeant.

When the war was over Mr. Brown returned to his home in Fulton county, Illinois, and although handicapped by the loss of his arm, he resumed farming and has attained success which many a man sound in every limb might well envy. In 1868 he removed to Henry county and broke the prairie upon his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township. He divided his time between his farming interests in Henry and Fulton counties for several years and has made his home in Henry county for the past thirty-five years, living in Osco township. He now owns one of the best improved farms in the county, comprising two hundred and eighty acres, and in addition to that he at one time owned six hundred and forty acres in Nebraska. This he afterward sold but he still owns his two hundred and eighty acre farm, for which he paid thirty thousand dollars and which has constantly increased in value. For many years he also engaged in loaning money. While in Nebraska he sustained a severe injury by being thrown from a broncho and since that time has lived practically retired, but he still supervises his business interests.

In his political views Mr. Brown is a stalwart republican and his fellow townsmen have called him to fill local offices. He has served as supervisor and assessor for a number of years and was also collector for two terms. He is numbered among the valued citizens of Henry county and highly respected by all and well known for his benevolences and deeds of charity, giving freely and generously of his means to those in need. He has a host of warm friends and well deserves mention in this volume.

---

#### EMERIT E. BAKER.

Emerit E. Baker, conspicuous in club and business circles in Kewanee, is a member of that class of representative men whose actions constitute a vital force in the upbuilding and development of the communities in which they reside. His keen insight, executive ability and carefully formulated plans have been an important element in Kewanee's progress in manufacturing lines and his successful career represents the fit utilization of his innate powers and talents, and also of the opportunities which have come to him. Born on a farm near Aurora, Illinois, his natal day was April 10, 1855. His parents were Samuel B. and

Mary Ann (Ward) Baker, the former a native of the Empire state, whence he removed to Illinois, devoting his life to general agricultural pursuits in this state.

In the country schools Emerit E. Baker pursued his education to the age of fifteen years after which he had the benefit of two years' instruction in the high school of Aurora. He then went to Chicago as office boy with the Anderson Steamer & Heater Company, originally of Kewanee, and in 1876 he removed to Kewanee where he entered the employ of the Haxtun Steam Heater Company. In the intervening years he has been closely associated with the city's progress in manufacturing lines. At the time of his arrival the Haxtun Steam Heater Company was employing about twenty people. Since that time, through the united efforts of Mr. Baker and his associates in business, the enterprise has become the foremost industry of central Illinois, operating today under the name of Kewanee Boiler Company and the Kewanee branch of the National Tube Company. His original position was that of bookkeeper and through intermediate positions he was continuously promoted until he became president of the Kewanee Boiler Company. Mr. Baker is also a director of the Kellogg-Mackay Company of Chicago and vice president of the Federal Boiler & Supply Company and chairman of its executive board.

On the 20th of June, 1900, occurred the marriage of Mr. Baker and Miss Jennie Hallin, a daughter of Bernard Hallin, who was born in Sweden and came to America in 1852, in which year he established his home in Henry county, settling in Andover, while later he removed to Wethersfield. In a short time he came to Kewanee, arriving in 1860, and for a brief period thereafter engaged in farming. He soon entered the tailoring business, however, having learned the trade in Sweden, and enjoyed a good patronage as a custom tailor. He put aside all business and personal considerations, however, at the time of the Civil war, and responded to the call of his adopted country for troops, enlisting as a member of Company H, Ninth Illinois Cavalry. While on active duty he was wounded and was later honorably discharged because of physical disability. He was a man of upright life and honorable purposes and held membership in the Swedish Lutheran church, living at all times in consistent harmony with his professions. He died in October, 1878, while his wife passed away in January, 1900.

The importance and extent of Mr. Baker's business interests have made him not only well known in Kewanee but also in Chicago, and his social relations in the latter city extend to the Chicago Athletic Club in which he holds membership. He is also a member of the Kewanee Club and on the 3d of June, 1900, was unanimously elected to the presidency of the Commercial Club of this city. Fraternally he is a Mason of high rank, having attained the degree of Knight Templar, and the Mystic Shrine, while of Kewanee Lodge, No. 159, A. F. & A. M., he is a past master. As village clerk, trustee and president, his public service covered sixteen years and has been characterized by the utmost faithfulness in the performance of his duties. In a review of his career it will be seen that he has been intensely active in business affairs, deeply engaged in the finest forms of public service, and is moreover a man whose social nature enables him to shed around him much of the sunshine of life. While

he has met with substantial success, he has also applied his energy and working powers to wider and more impersonal interests, oftentimes without any other reward than an occasional expression of appreciation and the sense of putting in work where it is most needed.

---

### JOHN HERVEY SEATON.

In the business circles of Cambridge John Hervey Seaton is prominent, being well known as the editor and publisher of the Cambridge Chief. It is true that he entered upon an enterprise already founded by his father, but nevertheless, in his capable control of its business and in his well directed efforts toward increasing its efficiency and circulation, he has manifested excellent qualities which rank him among the progressive and successful business men of Cambridge. His birth occurred on section 16, Wethersfield township, Henry county, on the 13th of September, 1865, and he is the son of Benjamin W. and Julia Elizabeth (Bond) Seaton. On the paternal side Mr. Seaton comes from old English stock, his great-grandfather, John Seaton, having been born in England in 1744, while his great-grandfather's sister, Mary Seaton, was one of the maids of honor to Mary, Queen of Scots. His grandfather, Joseph Seaton, was also a native of the Merrie isle and came to the United States in 1830, settling in Utica, New York, where his death occurred November 19, 1848. He was a wheelwright by trade and married Elizabeth Walker, who by her marriage became the mother of Benjamin W. Seaton, the father of our subject. The maternal grandfather was Mulford Bond, a shoemaker by trade, who was born in New York in 1798 and passed away in 1879. His wife was Julia A. (Johnson) Bond, who was born in 1800 and passed away in March, 1874. In their family were two children: Julia E., the wife of Benjamin W. Seaton; and Lucy Lavina, who married Charles A. Norton, the wedding being celebrated in 1858. Elisha Johnson, the father of Julia A. Johnson, was born on Long Island and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, his term of service covering five years and eight months. He was one of the three, who, being ignorant of what they were doing, and being under orders, on the 25th of September, 1875, rowed Benedict Arnold to the ship Vulture, the latter thus making his escape after his act of treason toward his country. His wife, Mary (Reeves) Johnson, was a native of Rhode Island and was married at the age of fifteen, becoming the mother of thirteen children nine of whom lived to mature years.

Benjamin W. Seaton, the father of our subject, was born in Yorkshire, England, about 1825, and throughout his entire business career devoted his time to the printing business, being connected therewith sixty-four years. He first took up this line of activity in connection with the old Baptist Register at Utica, New York, in 1840, and was thus engaged for several years. Coming west in 1851 he located at Chicago, where for some time he conducted a job printing business, and then removed to Prairie City, where he published the Prairie City Chronicle. Subsequently he came to Henry county, locating in Kewanee

in 1857, and for several years edited the Kewanee Dial, at that place. Then, leaving his family upon a farm in Henry county, he returned to Chicago, where he remained about ten years, and in 1867 he established the Prairie Chief in Galva, while the following year he removed it to Toulon. In 1871 he purchased the Henry County Democrat and moved the Prairie Chief to Cambridge, where he continued to publish it until February, 1902, when he turned it over to his son, John Hervey Seaton, under whose charge it has since remained, its name having been changed to the Cambridge Chief. Benjamin W. Seaton passed away June 22, 1908, at the age of eighty-three years, and by his death Henry county lost one of its valued citizens who throughout a long period had been closely and prominently identified with the growth of journalism in this county. His wife's death occurred March 9, 1904, when she had attained the age of eighty-two years. They were both members of the Episcopal church, although Mr. Seaton had formerly held membership in the Baptist church. Their family numbered ten children, six of whom still survive, namely: Mary, the wife of J. C. Clapham, of Ridgeway, Missouri; Helen, residing in Cambridge; Hiram J., of San Francisco, California; Clara Elizabeth, the wife of George M. Leathers, residing in Austin, Illinois; John H., of this review; and Charles A., who makes his home in Clarence, Iowa.

John Hervey Seaton, whose name introduces this sketch, came to Cambridge when a little lad of seven years and here he has continued to make his home up to the present time. Reared in his parents' home, he acquired his education in the public schools, while his time was divided between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the tasks assigned him by parental authority. Early coming to the conclusion that his father's choice of a life work was a wise and profitable one, he entered his father's office for the purpose of learning the printer's trade and by close application mastered all of the various phases of the work, acquiring a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the trade, so that when his father turned over to him the management and publication of the Prairie Chief, he was well equipped for the responsible duties that thus devolved upon him. He has been the editor and publisher of the paper since 1902, which under his management changed its name to the Cambridge Chief. The paper, which is republican in its tendency, is edited weekly and through the enterprise and industry of Mr. Seaton has gained an extensive and gratifying circulation which is constantly increasing in volume. Its columns are devoted to the discussion of current events and topics of especial interest to the subscribers, while it also furnishes a splendid advertising medium to merchants and various industries throughout the community.

On the 23d of November, 1892, Mr. Seaton was united in marriage to Miss Clara A. Miller, a daughter of Edmund R. and Maria (Barnes) Miller, natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively, while Mrs. Seaton's birth occurred in Geneseo, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Seaton were born six children, as follows: Benjamin Sanford, Clare Elizabeth, Frank Marion, Donn, Catherine and John Hervey. The parents are both church members, Mr. Seaton holding membership in the Episcopal church, while his wife is connected with the Congregational denomination. They are also prominent in fraternal circles, Mr. Seaton being identified with Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., while

both belong to Mystic Chapter, No. 60, of the Eastern Star. In politics Mr. Seaton is a republican, warmly supporting the principles of that party in the columns of his paper, and doing all in his power to further its influence in the community, while on that ticket he served as village clerk for eleven years and also as superintendent of the waterworks for ten years. Having resided in Cambridge almost his entire life, his interests are thoroughly identified with those of the village and he has not only attained a prominent place in journalistic circles, but his salient characteristics have been such as to win him a foremost rank among the valued and representative citizens of the community.

---

### FRANK MORRILL LAY.

Prominent among the business men of Kewanee is Frank Morrill Lay, who for a number of years has been closely identified with the history of the city as representative of a number of its most important business interests. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the concerns with which he is connected a large degree of success. He is one of Kewanee's native sons, his birth having here occurred September 14, 1869, his parents being Hiram T. and Martha (Morrill) Lay. In the public schools of Kewanee he pursued his early education and subsequently attended Knox Academy and Amherst College, of Massachusetts. He completed his collegiate course by graduation in 1893, at which time the Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred upon him, and returning to Kewanee he then made his initial step in the business world by entering the employ of the mercantile firm of Lay & Lyman as a clerk. He remained with that house for six months and in 1894 accepted a clerkship with the Boss Manufacturing company. The following year he was chosen its secretary and treasurer and its general manager and has since given his attention to administrative direction and executive control. This is one of the most important productive enterprises of the city, its success being largely attributable in the past fourteen years to the enterprise and diligence of Mr. Lay. Its trade interests now reach out to various sections of the country and branch houses have been established at Galesburg, Monmouth, and Peoria, Illinois, at Fort Wayne and Bluffton, Indiana, at Findlay, Ohio, and in New York city. Mr. Lay is a man of resourceful ability, whose energy and keen sagacity have enabled him to become connected with other profitable business interests. He is now the secretary and treasurer of the Galesburg & Kewanee Electric Railway Company and is also a member of the Lyman-Lay Company.

On the 24th of June, 1896, Mr. Lay was married to Miss Fannie Poole, of Dover, Illinois, a daughter of Warren Poole of Bureau county, this state, who is now a retired farmer residing in Kewanee. Mr. and Mrs. Lay have one son, Edward Poole Lay, born May 10, 1900. The parents hold membership in the First Congregational church and are active in its work and generous in its support. Their's is one of the most attractive and hospitable homes in Kewanee, its doors being ever open for the reception of their many friends.

Mr. Lay is a director of the Kewanee club and is prominently known in fraternal circles, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Oriental Consistory, while he has also crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is a charter member of Kewanee Lodge, No. 466, K. P., and is in hearty sympathy with the beneficent purposes of these organizations. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion, and for six years he has been a member of the school board. He is also recognized as a prominent leader in republican circles, has several times been chairman of the republican central committee and takes a deep interest in politics, but has never been an office seeker. As a public-spirited citizen, however, he cooperates in various movements for the general good and at the same time his business interests have ever been of a character that have contributed to general progress as well as to individual success. His work has always been of a constructive nature and he stands today as one of the most prominent and honored as well as successful business men of Kewanee.

---

#### FRANK A. HOLKE.

Frank A. Holke, an enterprising and progressive agriculturist of Geneseo township, was born in Edford township, Henry county, Illinois, his parents being Charles and Julianna (Miller) Holke, natives of West Prussia, Germany. In the year 1864 Mr. and Mrs. Holke crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up their abode on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Edford township, this county, on which they lived for a number of years, winning a gratifying and commendable degree of prosperity in their agricultural interests. Subsequently Mr. Holke bought a farm of eighty acres adjoining the corporation of Geneseo on the west, which he greatly improved, and there continued to reside for ten years. At the end of that time he put aside the active work of the fields and has since lived retired in a commodious and attractive residence on West Main street in Geneseo. Though his cash capital amounted to but three hundred dollars when he arrived in this country, he has made good use of his opportunities and has worked his way steadily upward until he is now numbered among the most prosperous and substantial citizens of Henry county. He still owns the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Edford township, now a well improved and arable tract of land, and also a valuable farm of eighty acres in Geneseo township. The buildings on the latter farm are all of the most modern and substantial character and the place is lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. In addition to these two properties he also owns his fine residence in Geneseo. His wife died when seventy years of age, passing away on the 18th of December, 1904, in the faith of the Lutheran church. He is likewise a devoted and consistent member of that church, his life having ever been in harmony with its teachings. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, five sons and three daughters, namely: Julius L.; Augusta, the wife of August Borst, of Rock Island; Gustav A.; Ernest R.; Louis; Hulda, the wife of W. S. Frank, of Moline, Illinois;

Frank A., of this review; and Amanda, the wife of Fred Rahn, who lives on the old home farm of Charles Holke in Edford township. Julius L., Gustav A. and Ernest R. passed away in early manhood.

Frank A. Holke was reared on his father's farm in this county and attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and then began operating his father's farm of eighty acres in Geneseo township in the cultivation of which he has been busily engaged to the present time. He rents the property from his father, and owns a tract of land of forty acres just across the road from this farm. Enterprising, alert and energetic, he makes a close study of agriculture and through the careful cultivation of the soil and the rotation of crops annually gathers abundant harvests, which find a ready sale on the market. His brother Louis, resides with him.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Holke has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy. He is a valued member of the Lutheran church and exemplifies its teachings in his daily life. Having always made his home within the borders of this county, he is widely and favorably known here and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

---

### VINCENT J. ROOT.

Vincent J. Root, attorney at law and court reporter of Galva, now enjoys an extensive and lucrative practice, which has come to him as the reward of an earnest endeavor, fidelity to trust and recognized ability. He was born on a farm five and a half miles west of Galva, in Weller township, Henry county, Illinois, his natal day being June 27, 1875. His parents are John and Betsy (Ogren) Root and a sketch of the father appears on another page of this work. Vincent J. Root was reared on his father's farm and began his education in the district schools, while subsequently he pursued his studies in the public schools at Bishop Hill and Galva. He next attended the Metropolitan Business College at Chicago and during the years 1901 and 1902 taught shorthand in that institution. Determining upon the legal profession as his life work, he then entered the law department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, and was graduated with the class of 1904. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1905, and since that time has won a large and distinctively representative clientage. He maintains his residence and office in Galva, but his practice extends throughout Henry, Mercer and Whiteside counties. In addition to his work as a legal practitioner, he also utilizes his knowledge of shorthand as a court reporter. His logical grasp of facts and principles of the law applicable to them has been a potent element in his success, and a remarkable clearness of expression, an adequate and precise diction, which enables him to make others understand not only the salient points of his argument but his very fine gradation of meaning, may be accounted one of his most conspicuous gifts and accomplishments.

On the 5th of October, 1905, Mr. Root was united in marriage to Miss Christine Wing, a daughter of Peter and Martha (Olson) Wing, of Ofvanoku, Helsingland, Sweden, in which country her parents still make their home. At the polls Mr. Root casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He is a member of Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and of Peoria Consistory, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also a member of Mohammed Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria and both he and his wife belong to Eastern Star Lodge, No. 57, and Rebekah Lodge, No. 430. He is likewise identified through membership relations with Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F., and Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 241. Though still a young man, he has already attained an enviable position in the ranks of legal fraternity in this part of the state, and in professional and social circles alike has won a host of warm friends.

---

#### MRS. MARY A. MELOY.

Mrs. Mary A. Meloy, the widow of Robert W. Meloy, has spent her entire life in this county and is well known and highly esteemed within its borders. She was born in Cambridge, Illinois, on the 21st of December, 1861, her parents being James and Mary A. (Lilly) Mascal, who were natives of England and New York respectively. They were among the earliest settlers of this county, James Mascal purchasing a farm in Cambridge township, where he reared his family. In addition to his agricultural interests he also conducted a mercantile establishment in Cambridge and, being a man of unfaltering energy and excellent business ability, met with gratifying success in his undertakings. He became an extensive landowner and was widely recognized as one of the most substantial, enterprising and progressive citizens of the community. He lived to attain the venerable age of almost eighty years, while his wife, who survived him, was seventy-three years old at the time of her demise. He was a devoted member of the Episcopal church and his wife was a Methodist in religious faith. They were active church workers and contributed liberally to all charitable and religious organizations, while the poor and needy never sought their aid in vain. Seven children were born unto them, five daughters and two sons, but only four are now living, namely: John R., a resident of Cambridge; Jennie S., the wife of Peter E. Walline, of Upland, California; Daniel S., living in Cambridge; and Mary A., of this review. Julia A., the wife of Seth Perkins, is deceased, and two children died in infancy. The parents also reared Emma L. Mascal, who made her home with them from the age of three weeks until her death.

Mrs. Meloy was reared in the place of her nativity and in her girlhood days attended the public schools but, becoming ill with typhoid fever, was obliged to leave before completing the course. On the 3d of May, 1882, she gave her hand in marriage to Robert W. Meloy, by whom she had three children, as follows: George, living in Chicago, who wedded Miss Myrtle Story and has two children—Robert and Russell; Bessie, a dressmaker residing in Galva; and Robert, who makes his home in Chicago.



Mary A. Marshall, Meloy.



Mrs. Meloy is comfortably situated financially, owning a valuable and finely improved tract of land of two hundred and forty acres in Cambridge township. It is one of the best farms in the entire county and returns to her a gratifying annual income. Her property holdings also include a good residence and two lots in Cambridge, where she has lived from her birth to the present time. She is a **faithful** and consistent member of the Methodist **Episcopal church**, **exemplifying its teachings** in her daily life. Her many excellent **traits of heart and mind** have endeared her to all with whom she has come in contact, and she well deserves mention in this volume as a worthy representative of one of the earliest pioneer families of Henry county.

---

### ANDREW JACKSON RECORD.

Success results not so much from any unusual combination of circumstances or the possession of traits that are not commonly found in the majority of men, but rather in the recognition and utilization of opportunity. In his business career Andrew Jackson Record has employed every moment to its best advantage, and it is thus that he has gained a foremost place among the substantial and influential citizens of Cambridge. Born in Venango county, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of September, 1856, he is a son of Benjamin J. and Sarah A. (Deets) Record, also natives of the Keystone state.

The Record family, which originated in Scotland, has long been represented in Pennsylvania, the grandfather, Philip Record, having been born in that state where he and his wife, Sarah (Hill) Record, lived to a ripe old age. In their family were six children, as follows: Benjamin J.; Mary, the deceased wife of John Bell; Jane, who married Hugh Walker; Agnes, now deceased; Archibald; and Sarah, the deceased wife of David Resinger. On the maternal side also Mr. Record comes from an old Pennsylvania family, the birth of his grandfather, Joseph Deets, having occurred in Germany. Coming to America, he settled in Pennsylvania where throughout his entire life he was identified with agricultural interests. He was a soldier of the war of 1812, who at the close of hostilities, refused to accept a pension. He married Sarah Cousins and they both passed away in their native state when well advanced in years. They were the parents of fifteen children, twelve of whom reached mature years, while six yet survive, namely: Jane, the wife of Joshua Johnson; Sarah A., the widow of Benjamin J. Record; Jackson Deets, of Upland, California; Hannah, the wife of Cal Ritchey; Lavina, who married John Taylor; and Louisa, the wife of James Kifford.

Benjamin J. Record, the father of our subject, devoted his entire life to the occupation of farming. In 1863 he left his native state and came west to Illinois, settling first in Mercer county, while in 1865 he removed to Henry county, where for ten years he made his home in Burns township. At the expiration of that period he went to Osco township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, which he continued to operate for fifteen years. He then withdrew from active business life and removed into Cambridge, where he lived retired for about sixteen years, or until his death, which occurred Decem-

ber 31, 1905, when he had attained the age of seventy-six years. His wife still survives at the age of seventy-six years, and is a devoted member of the Methodist church, as was also her husband. In their family were the following children: Andrew J., of this review; Ella J., the deceased wife of Perry Dickerson; Benjamin Sylvanus, a resident of Woodward, Iowa; Frank F., of Cambridge; Emery J., who also makes his home in Cambridge; and Flora, who passed away in infancy.

Andrew J. Record was a little lad of seven years when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Pennsylvania to Illinois, and on his father's farm in Osco and Burns townships, Henry county, the days of his boyhood and youth were passed in the usual manner of the country lad. In the district schools he mastered the elementary branches of learning and he later attended the public schools of Cambridge, while he remained under the parental roof until twenty-five years of age, giving his father the benefit of his assistance in the meantime. He took up general farming on his own account as a renter, continuing in that capacity for several years, and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Dallas county, Iowa, upon which he resided for three years. Selling this farm he moved to DeWitt, Nebraska, where he conducted a livery business for four years. He later traded his barn for a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and subsequently traded that tract of land for property in Andover township, Henry county, Illinois. He has since withdrawn from agricultural pursuits but still owns two hundred acres of rich farming land which annually returns to him a most gratifying income. He is now closely identified with the business interests of Cambridge, being well known as a partner in the firm of Johnson & Record, dealers in lumber. The company is one of the prosperous and progressive enterprises of the community and Mr. Record's efforts have been important factors in the substantial success which the firm is now enjoying.

On the 10th of January, 1895, Mr. Record was united in marriage to Miss Minnie E. King, a daughter of Rufus and Rebecca (Whitney) King, and unto them has been born one daughter, Ella Marian Record. Mr. Record is a prominent figure in Masonic circles, belonging to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., to Kewanee Chapter, R. A. M., and to Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T., while he is likewise identified with the Peoria Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Politically he is a stalwart republican, having supported that party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and on that ticket he has served as township clerk for fourteen years. He has also been school director for three terms, and is deeply interested in the cause of education, serving as a member of the building committee that erected the Cambridge high school in 1906.

Public-spirited in his citizenship, his influence is ever upon the side of progress, reform, improvement and advancement, and these qualities constitute him a citizen of value in the community. He has been preeminently successful in his business relations, but the story of his success is short and simple. It contains no exciting chapters but in its completeness lies one of the valuable secrets of the prosperity which it records. Beginning business life as a renter, with no especial advantages at the outset of his career, he has worked his way upward

by earnest, persistent and unfaltering effort until today he is ranked among the influential and well-to-do residents of Henry county. No man's history indicated more clearly the value and power of close application, of concentration, of earnest and honorable purpose and of wise utilization of opportunity.

---

### RODERICK R. STEWART.

Roderick R. Stewart, deceased, belonged to the original colony that established the town of Geneseo in 1836 and was its oldest member. He was born at Stephentown, Rensselaer county, New York, on the 25th of February, 1787, his parents being Colonel Elisha and Sarah (Witter) Stewart, natives of Stonington, Connecticut. The father, whose birth occurred on the 29th of June, 1757, participated in the Revolutionary war, enlisting from Stonington, Connecticut. Subsequently he took up his abode in Stephentown, New York, where most of his eleven children were born. His demise occurred June 19, 1839, while his wife, who was born December 12, 1757, was called to her final rest on the 14th of July, 1812.

Roderick R. Stewart, who was the fifth in order of birth in his father's family, made his way from Geneseo, New York, to Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, in 1836, and here spent the remainder of his life. In early manhood he followed the carpenter's trade, subsequently became a manufacturer, and during the period of his residence in this county was engaged in general agricultural pursuits. His counsel was always sought in matters pertaining to the general welfare and his neighbors solicited his aid in solving many of their difficulties. At the time of his demise he was serving as justice of the peace. He was the oldest man in the colony and was familiarly known as Father Stewart. His death, which occurred in Geneseo on the 12th of July, 1860, was deeply mourned and the people of the community felt that they had sustained a serious loss.

On the 31st of October, 1813, Mr. Stewart was united in marriage to Miss Clarissa Dresser, whose birth occurred in Charlton, Massachusetts, September 4, 1789. She was the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children and in early life accompanied her parents on their removal to New York. During the war of 1812 she devoted her spare time to making bullets for the American soldiers. She traced her ancestry back to John Dresser, of Rowley, England, who in 1639 settled at Rowley, Massachusetts. Her father, Isaac Dresser, and her grandfather, John Dresser, were both soldiers of the Revolutionary war. The mother of Mrs. Stewart, who bore the maiden name of Susan Taft, was distantly connected with President Taft's family. Although an invalid for some years, Mrs. Stewart recuperated in a measure after her removal westward and proved of valuable assistance to her friends and neighbors in cases of sickness. She was called the "mother" of the Geneseo colony and was widely known as "Mother Stewart." She had nine children, all of whom are now deceased, one passing away in infancy. A record of the others is given below.

Isaac Newton Stewart, the eldest, was an old settler of this county and was the father of Mrs. George S. Wells, who still resides here. He was twice mar-

ried, his first wife being Mary Weller, of Avon, New York. He conducted the old hotel in Geneseo for several years. By his first marriage he had four children and two of his sons, Edward and Frederick, both of whom have passed away, were soldiers in the Civil war. Another son, Frank N., is a prominent railroad man residing at Huron, South Dakota. Frank N. Stewart has a son, Ralph, who is in the naval service on board the battleship Kentucky. For his second wife Isaac N. Stewart chose Mrs. Sylvia Close, by whom he had one son, Frank.

Narcissa, the second child of Roderick R. and Clarissa (Dresser) Stewart, became the wife of Huntington Wells, of Moline, and passed away in 1850. Elisha M. Stewart, whose birth occurred in 1818, made his home in Geneseo from 1836 until 1876 and during that entire period was prominently identified with the interests of the town. In 1848 he wedded Miss Clarissa Cone, a daughter of Elisha and Eliza Cone, and they continued to reside in Geneseo until 1876, when they took up their abode in Kansas. Their union was blessed with six children, four of whom still survive and have children of their own. Both Mr. and Mrs. Elisha M. Stewart died in Wichita, Kansas, the former passing away in 1899, while the latter's death occurred in 1905. Susannah Stewart gave her hand in marriage to James M. Allan in 1839, their's being the first wedding in Geneseo. Unto them were born four daughters, namely: Sarah, Mrs. Amelia West, Mrs. Frances Pearsall and Mrs. Louise Williams. Permelia Stewart, the fifth child of Roderick R. Stewart, became the wife of Dr. S. T. Hume in 1846. They lost five children in infancy and Mrs. Ella N. Taylor is the only one of their children now living. Lafayette Stewart, whose birth occurred in 1824, passed away in 1898. In 1849 he had wedded Miss Amanda Faxon, who was called to her final rest in 1899. They had five children, one of whom died in infancy. Josiah Stewart was born in 1828 and passed away in 1855. In early manhood he married Miss Eliza Ward, by whom he had a daughter, who died a short time prior to the demise of her father. George W. Stewart, who first opened his eyes to the light of day in 1830, passed away at Atchison, Kansas, in 1903. He was twice married and by his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Fiester, had three children. For his second wife he chose Miss Isadore Fenner, of Bellevue, Iowa, and unto them were born six children. Mrs. Clarissa (Dresser) Stewart died at Geneseo, Illinois, on the 5th of August, 1867, having survived her husband for seven years.

---

### JOHN L. BLOMBERG.

John L. Blomberg is a representative of the younger generation of farmers, now operating seventy-six acres of land which he rents in Weller township. He was born in Bishop Hill, May 25, 1880, a son of Isaac and Christine (Soderquist) Blomberg. The father, who was born in Bishop Hill, October 31, 1854, has made farming his life work and for many years has been identified with the cultivation of the homestead farm of one hundred and eight acres, located two and a half miles southwest of the village. The mother, who was likewise

born in Bishop Hill, is a daughter of Lars Soderquist, a prominent representative of the Swedish settlement of this district.

John L. Blomberg pursued his studies in the district schools of the neighborhood and through the period of his boyhood and youth he was trained to the work of the home farm, lessons of integrity and economy early being instilled into his mind, and in later years he has not departed from this discipline. In the spring of 1908 he rented his present farm of seventy-six acres. Through experience he has learned much of value along agricultural lines and his efforts are being rewarded with bounteous crops.

On the 26th of March, 1908, Mr. Blomberg was united in marriage to Miss Lilly Moline, a daughter of Olof Moline, who is now deceased and whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Blomberg is well known in this section of Henry county and is a member of the Methodist church at Nekoma, taking a prominent part in all the social events of the church.

Mr. Blomberg is a republican, always voting for the men and measures of this party. His fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen at Bishop Hill and with his wife he attends the Methodist church at Nekoma. They are popular young people, having a wide circle of friends who esteem them highly for their genuine, personal worth.

---

#### SULLIVAN F. FRANCIS.

Sullivan F. Francis, a well known and prosperous young resident of Kewanee, has been successfully engaged in business as a dealer in horses since starting out in life on his own account. His birth occurred in Kewanee township, this county, on the 6th of December, 1877, his parents being S. R. and Anna I. (Barnes) Francis, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this work. At the usual age he entered the district schools and after completing the prescribed course he spent one year as a student in the Kewanee high school. On putting aside his text-books he began dealing in horses and has since been continuously identified with that line of activity, now devoting his entire attention thereto. He employs men in Henry and adjoining counties to purchase the stock and gives his personal attention to the retail trade. He is a good judge of horses and their value and always has on hand a number of excellent specimens of the noble steed. The old homestead where he was born now belongs to him and has been in possession of the family for almost seven decades, the father of our subject having taken up his abode thereon about 1841. He purchased a residence prior to buying his present home at No. 421 South Vine street, where he has resided since April, 1907.

On the 8th of June, 1904, at Galesburg, Illinois, Mr. Francis was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Dean, a daughter of William Dean of that place. They now have two children: Dean Sullivan, who was born on the 13th of January, 1906; and Gano Elizabeth, whose natal day was August 11, 1909.

Mr. Francis casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party but aside from that takes no part in politics, preferring to con-

centrate his energies upon his private affairs. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Kewanee, while fraternally he is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has remained a resident of Henry county from his birth to the present time and that his life has been honorable and worthy of public regard is indicated by the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood.

---

### ALBERT W. ERRETT.

Albert W. Errett, who is serving for the third term as postmaster of Kewanee, while his service as alderman has covered nine years, has made an excellent record as a public official, his course being highly beneficial to the city in many ways. In all that he has done he has been actuated by a desire to promote the best interests of the community, and his labors have been effective, far-reaching and beneficial. He was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, December 24, 1848, his parents being Rev. John and Eliza (Gary) Errett. The father was for a quarter of a century a minister of the Christian church.

Albert W. Errett engaged in clerking in the Parrish book store and in the Phillips dry-goods store and entered the field of merchandising as a proprietor in 1882, in which year he became junior partner in the firm of Moffett & Errett. In this he continued for eight years and then became manager of the Kewanee Coal Company, being thus identified with the business life of the city until 1899 when he was appointed by President McKinley as postmaster of Kewanee. He has since been reappointed and is now serving for the third term in that position, the duties of which he discharges in a prompt and capable manner, being thorough and systematic in all of the work of the office.

Mr. Errett was married in 1874 to Miss Martha H. Boyd, of Cambridge, this county, a daughter of Samuel Boyd, a tailor, who located in Cambridge in 1858 and there resided until his death which occurred when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-four years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Errett have been born three children: Harry Boyd, residing in Portsmouth, Ohio, who is president and manager of the Portsmouth Refractory Company; Albert W. Jr., an engineer, director and vice president of the Kewanee Water Supply Company, residing in this city; and Nellie D., now the wife of A. E. Witherell, a resident of Kewanee, who is connected with the Kewanee branch of the National Tube Company.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Errett is an Elk and is also associated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He likewise belongs to the Kewanee Club and the Commercial Club and of the latter is chairman of the investment committee. His wife is very active in the Daughters of the American Revolution, has served for several terms as regent of the local chapter and was again elected in 1909. They are both prominent socially, and the hospitality of the best homes of Kewanee is cordially extended them. Mr. Errett is recognized as one of the prominent leaders of the republican party in this district, and that he has the entire confidence and trust of his fellowmen is indicated in the fact that

he has been elected at various times to the office of alderman, in which his service has covered nine years. He has proved a most trustworthy incumbent in the office, exercising his official prerogatives in support of all measures and movements for the general good.

---

### FRANK S. HAYNES.

Frank S. Haynes, well known as one of the leading and representative citizens of Geneseo, owns and occupies a fine home in the town while his property interests also include three hundred and sixty acres of valuable farming land in Geneseo township, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, and which returns to him a gratifying annual income. He is a representative of one of the pioneer families of this part of the state, his parents being Henry B. and Lucy (Wood) Haynes, who settled in Putnam county, Illinois, in 1844. The father at that time purchased a farm which he cultivated for many years, making his home thereon until his death in 1889. His wife continued to reside upon the old homestead until her demise, which occurred in 1896.

Frank S. Haynes was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the work of the fields as the plowing, planting and harvesting were carried forward. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and he remained at home until twenty-four years of age, when he started out in life on his own account.

Mr. Haynes has been married twice. Before leaving the old farm he wedded Miss Hattie Holsburg, a native of Putnam county, Illinois, and a daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Holsburg. Unto this marriage was born one son, Henry H., whose birth occurred December 6, 1891, and who is still living with his father. Mrs. Haynes died in 1894, after the removal to the farm in Henry county. On coming to this county Mr. Haynes purchased his farm in Geneseo township, resolutely taking up the work of tilling the soil and bringing the land under a high state of cultivation. In June, 1896, he was again married, his second union being with Clara M. Wood, a daughter of George W. and Mary (Hoffstatter) Wood, of Geneseo, who came from Michigan to Henry county in 1865 and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Munson township. There they lived until 1881, when they went to Grand Forks county, North Dakota, and by claim and purchase Mr. Wood secured about fourteen hundred acres of land. They spent the summer in the north, returning to Henry county for the winter months. In the Wood family were two sons: George L., who is now a dentist in Geneseo, and John D., who follows merchandising in the same place. By his second marriage Mr. Haynes has two children: Florence, born February 8, 1900; and Margaret, born April 26, 1903.

Mr. Haynes continued to engage in farming until 1906, when he retired from active business cares and removed to Geneseo. He is a director and stockholder of the Farmers National Bank and is regarded as a man of sound business judgment, whose labors and energy have brought him the success which is his. He has never aspired to political honors, but was the instigator and promoter

of the Green River special drainage district in Henry and Bureau counties. This awakened much enmity but has proven to be one of the most beneficial improvements that Henry county has ever had. Mr. Haynes was farsighted in recognizing the value that it would be to the community and he never faltered in the course which he began until the work was successfully completed. He has always stood for public improvement and progress and many know him to be a man of keen insight, unfaltering in his devotion to the best interests of the county.

---

#### REGINALD HEBER HINMAN.

When the complete history of Henry county shall have been written there will be found upon its pages frequent and honorable mention of Reginald H. Hinman, who for fifty-eight years has resided within its borders, and his prominence as one of the pioneer settlers is indicated in the fact that for fifteen years he has been continuously chosen as secretary of the Old Settlers Association. He is also the president of the Farmers National Bank of Cambridge and is thus closely identified with the financial interests of the community.

Reginald Heber Hinman was born in Bristol, Connecticut, February 4, 1828, and his parents, Willis and Olive (Attwater) Hinman, were also natives of the same state. The former was a son of Philemon Hinman, who was born in Connecticut and was of English lineage. He learned and followed the carpenter's trade and died about 1834 when sixty-five years of age. The maternal grandfather, Isaac Attwater, was a Connecticut farmer and was of Welsh descent. He served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war and died in Connecticut at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His family numbered three daughters and one son, including Olive Attwater, who became the wife of Willis Hinman.

Mr. Hinman was a carpenter by trade. On removing from Connecticut to Ohio in 1837 he settled at Troy, Miami county, making his home there and in Montgomery county until December, 1850, when he came to Illinois with his son Reginald H. Hinman. They traveled over the state to some extent, reaching Henry county in January, 1851. Being greatly pleased with this district, Willis Hinman then returned to Ohio for his family, leaving his son here. In May he again reached Henry county and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Osco township, which he improved. His son Reginald secured one quarter of the same section while his brother William took the other quarter. A few years later their father removed to Geneseo and about 1876 went to Cambridge, where he lived retired for some time. He died, however, on the old home farm in Osco township, September 18, 1888, at the age of ninety-one years, and his wife, who survived him for six months, was also ninety-one years of age at the time of her death. They were Episcopalians in their religious faith. Their family numbered a daughter and two sons who reached adult age. Clarissa, now the deceased wife of Nelson Gaines of Geneseo; Reginald H.; and William W., who died in Cambridge, Illinois.

Reginald H. Hinman spent the period of his minority in Troy and Dayton, Ohio, pursuing his education in the public schools of those cities and in an



*R. H. Hummer*



academy at Dayton. Early in his business career he was employed in a last and peg factory in Dayton. He was afterward engaged in farm work in Ohio for three years but at length left Troy for Illinois, where he has since been identified with farming interests. He still owns the old home place in Osco township, in which he first settled, and he likewise has ninety-seven acres in Cambridge township adjoining the corporation limits of the city of Cambridge on the south. Since 1888 he has lived in Cambridge and from this point has superintended his agricultural interests. For ten or twelve years he has been identified with the Farmers National Bank and for more than two years has served as its president. He was also one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Cambridge and has long figured as a prominent factor in financial circles, his name being for many years a most honored one on commercial paper.

On the 4th of October, 1852, Mr. Hinman was married to Miss Elizabeth Miller of Troy, Ohio, a daughter of Chrisley and Hannah (Wright) Miller. The children of this marriage are three in number: Elliott, the eldest, who is engaged in the feed and fuel business at Pomona, California, married Nora A. Nolind and they have three children: Frances E., Susie E. and Harry H. Frank M., living in Allentown, Pennsylvania, wedded Lillie Miller and they have three children: May, Ralph and Ethel. Jennie May, the daughter of the first marriage, died in Osco when twenty-two years of age. The wife and mother passed away in September, 1865, at the age of thirty-three years. In October, 1868, Mr. Hinman was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Susan Corl, the widow of Henry Corl, who was a soldier of the Civil war and died while at the front, being killed at the battle of Knoxville, Tennessee. Mrs. Hinman was born at Doylestown, Pennsylvania, May 2, 1832, and her parents were Thomas and Annie (Fraley) Combs, natives of Germantown, Pennsylvania, well known as farming people of that community. In 1852 the father removed with his family to Bureau county, Illinois, where he lived for ten years and then took up his abode at Gardner, Grundy county, Illinois, where he died in 1868. His wife passed away in March, 1852, at the age of forty-eight years. In their family were seven children, a son and six daughters, but only two are now living—Mrs. Hinman and her sister, Leah, the wife of Rese Nolind. Mrs. Hinman is descended in the maternal line from one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war, her great-grandfather having valiantly aided the colonists in the struggle for independence.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hinman are members of Grace Episcopal church of Osco and in social circles have occupied a prominent and enviable position. Mr. Hinman belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and he and his wife hold membership in the Eastern Star. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have several times called him to office. He has served for a number of terms as supervisor of Osco township and was chairman of the board for one term. He has also been justice of the peace for a number of years, discharging his duties in a strictly impartial manner, his decisions being based upon the law and equity in the case. Few men have a wider acquaintance in the county and none are held in higher esteem than Mr. Hinman, who for the past fifteen years has been the secretary of the Old Settlers Association. He is the only man now

living who was a resident of Osco in 1851. There was only one house in the town when he took up his abode there, and in the intervening years he has not only been a witness of the events which shaped the history of the county but has also been an active participant therein. He has passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey, but in spirit and interests seems yet in his prime. Old age need not suggest as a matter of course inactivity or lack of occupation. There is an old age which grows stronger and brighter mentally and spiritually as the years pass and gives out of its rich stores of wisdom and experience for the benefit of others. Such is the record of Reginald H. Hinman.

---

### WILLIS LYMAN WILKINSON.

Willis Lyman Wilkinson, whose services as warden of the county poor-house in Munson township are most acceptable, was born in Tiskilwa, Bureau county, Illinois, September 21, 1861. In the paternal line he comes of an old New England family, his grandfather having been George Wilkinson, a native of Rhode Island. He was a farmer in early life but for years conducted a hotel in Tiskilwa. He died at the age of sixty years or more. His widow, Mrs. Julia Wilkinson, long survived him and passed away when eighty-five years of age.

Lyman Wilkinson, the father of W. L. Wilkinson, was born in Pennsylvania and was reared to farm life but in early manhood learned the carpenter's trade. Removing westward to Illinois he settled first in Bureau county and lived for a number of years at Tiskilwa, where he followed carpentering. He afterward became superintendent of the county poor farm, occupying that position for two years and in 1872 removed to Henry county where he capably filled the position of superintendent of the poor farm for thirty-four years. No higher testimonial of his efficiency in that position could be given than the fact that he was so long retained in the office. He was a soldier of the Civil war, belonging to the Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry in which he served as first lieutenant while his brother, Orrin Wilkinson, was captain. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg, in the battle of Shiloh and in many other important engagements of the war, never faltering in his allegiance to the old flag when it led him to the firing line or when he followed it on the long, hard marches of the campaign. His political support was given to the republican party, and both he and his wife were Episcopalians in religious faith. He wedded Emmeline Stevens, a native of New Hampshire and a daughter of Thomas Stevens, who was likewise born in the old Granite state. He was a farmer by occupation and became one of the first settlers of Bureau county, Illinois. He was twice married and lived to an old age. The death of Lyman Wilkinson occurred on the Henry county poor farm in 1906, when he was seventy-two years of age, he being still in charge of the institution up to the time of his demise. His wife died in 1898 at the age of sixty-three years. They had but three children: George T., now living in Pueblo, Colorado; Willis L.; and Bert Henry, who died at the age of twenty-two years.

Willis L. Wilkinson was a lad of ten years when his father took charge of the Henry county poor farm. He attended the public schools of Tiskilwa, Illinois, and also the district schools of Munson township, while later he pursued a course in a business college at Davenport, Iowa. He was his father's assistant at the poor farm and also conducted a farm of one hundred and sixty-seven acres in Munson township near Cambridge. After his father's death he became his successor and thus has charge of three hundred and twenty acres of land which is devoted to general farming purposes, while the house has sixty inmates. He manages the place with the same ability and enterprise which he would display in the control of private business affairs and, like his father, has sustained an unassailable reputation in his connection with the poor farm.

On the 17th of June, 1886, Mr. Wilkinson was united in marriage to Miss Ethel Lambert, a daughter of William and Milda (Britton) Lambert. Mrs. Wilkinson is a native of Geneseo and her mother was born in Phenix township, Henry county, but her father was a native of England. He became one of the early settlers of Henry county and was well known as a scenic and house painter. He lives with his daughter at the present time, his wife having died in 1904 when fifty-eight years of age. They had seven children, but only two are now living—Mrs. Wilkinson and Howard B. Lambert, of Clyde, New York. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Wilkinson was William Lambert, a native of England who came to America in 1834 and settled in Rochester, New York. He removed to Michigan and then to Illinois, but spent his last days in Michigan where he died at the age of more than seventy years. The maternal grandfather was Frank Britton, a native of Kentucky and a farmer by occupation.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson was blessed with two children, Mabel, now the wife of Howard H. Withrow, a resident farmer of Phenix township; and Elon, who is a student in the Geneseo high school. Mrs. Wilkinson belongs to the Congregational church and is greatly esteemed in the county where she has always lived. Mr. Wilkinson belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine. His political support is given to the republican party, but he neither seeks nor desires office as the reward for party fealty. The record which he has made in connection with his official service is most commendable and he is regarded as a man in every way worthy of the trust reposed in him. Both he and his wife have many good qualities and are greatly esteemed in the social circles of the town.

---

#### CLARENCE A. GARLAND.

Clarence A. Garland is the owner of a finely improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Colona township, where he has made his home since 1903. He is a native of this township, born on a farm, March 15, 1865, a son of George W. and Catherine (Hunt) Garland, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. The son was reared on the home farm and as soon as he was old enough to follow the plow he was set to work in the fields, working diligently

through the spring and summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools of the neighborhood. He remained with his father until he reached years of maturity and then established a home of his own by his marriage on the 2d of March, 1892, to Miss Carrie Jones, a daughter of William and Anna (Anderson) Jones, who are also mentioned on another page of this volume.

Following his marriage Mr. Garland located on a farm in Western township and there remained for five years, at the end of which time he removed to a farm owned by Henry Washburn in Colona township. During these years he worked earnestly in the hope of some day being the possessor of a farm and in 1902 his hopes were realized, for he then purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres located in Colona township. He did not take up his abode thereon, however, until a year later but in 1903 removed to the place and since that time has given his attention to its cultivation. The place was not improved when it came into his possession but Mr. Garland has made many improvements since locating here. The land is arable, yielding good harvests in season. Mr. Garland devotes a portion of his time to raising stock and makes a specialty of breeding and raising Duroc Jersey hogs. He has gained a wide reputation in this particular branch, being recognized as one of the most prominent breeders in Henry county.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Garland has been blessed with seven children, Pearl L., Lillie May, Floyd E., Clarence Arthur, Harold L., Mina D., and Gladys M. The eldest is deceased, and the others are all at home.

Politically Mr. Garland is a republican and has been active in public affairs. He has served as road commissioner and for six years has been a member of the school board. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife are members of the Baptist church at Orion and take an active and helpful part in all departments of church and Sunday-school work. Their home, standing on a hill, commands a splendid view of the surrounding country. It is noted, too, for its gracious and warm-hearted hospitality and the members of the household are held in the highest regard by their many friends.

---

### JOHN HAMILTON.

The days pass busily for John Hamilton for a farm of one hundred and sixty acres claims his time and attention. It has been his property since 1906 and it constitutes the southwest quarter of section 34, Geneseo township. The place is now well improved and is devoted to the cultivation of cereals and the raising of stock, Mr. Hamilton carefully conducting both branches of his business.

The life record of Mr. Hamilton began on the 22d of September, 1872, his birthplace being on a farm near Grey Abbey, County Down, Ireland. He was a son of James and Jane (Wright) Hamilton, and on the home place he remained to the age of sixteen years, during which period he acquired a good common-school education. He was attracted, however, by the favorable reports which he heard concerning America and her opportunities and resolved that

he would try his fortune on the western side of the Atlantic. Accordingly he made arrangements to leave his native country and in due time, the ocean voyage completed, he landed on American shores. He did not tarry in the east, however, but came at once to Henry county, Illinois, where resided his brother, Robert Hamilton, who is now living in Munson township. Mr. Hamilton had very little money when he reached his destination and at once began to work by the month as a farm hand, receiving a remuneration of sixteen dollars per month. He worked in that way for about sixteen years, saving from his wages all that he could spare after purchasing the necessities of life. At length he felt that he had enough money to purchase farm machinery and the other necessary supplies which he would need in cultivating land. He then rented a farm in Phenix township and for some time thereafter continued to lease property, but eventually was enabled to purchase a farm and is now the owner of an excellent tract of land.

On the 20th of December, 1900, Mr. Hamilton was married in Geneseo to Miss Emma E. Ernst, a native of Geneseo township and a daughter of George and Magdalena (Holzinger) Ernst. They now have one child, Herbert Ernst, who was born in Phenix township July 31, 1902. Mr. Hamilton's mother is still living in Ireland at the advanced age of eighty years, but the father died during the early childhood of his son. Since becoming a naturalized American citizen Mr. Hamilton has given stalwart support to the republican party, casting his first vote for Harrison. He is not an office seeker, however, but believes that good men should be chosen to the positions. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith, and he and his wife now hold membership in a church of that denomination in Geneseo. They are true and loyal to its teachings and their faith is manifest in kind deeds and upright lives.

---

#### ALFRED S. OFFERLE.

Alfred S. Offerle, a well known farmer and stock raiser whose farm comprises the north half of the southeast quarter of section 8, Munson township, was born in the city of Geneseo, December 15, 1870, and is a son of John and Catharine (Fisher) Offerle, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. He was reared to manhood in his native city and in the acquirement of his education passed through consecutive grades in the public schools until he had completed two years' work in the high school. He has, however, been largely dependent upon his own resources from the age of thirteen years, when he began work by the month as a farm hand. He was thus employed until the time of his marriage, which was celebrated on Christmas day of 1895, in the Lutheran parsonage in Edford township, the lady of his choice being Miss Lulu Wildermuth, a native of Osco township and a daughter of Phillip and Mary (Niermeyer) Wildermuth, who are now residents of Geneseo. Her father, now about seventy years of age, was born in Alsace, Germany, and when a lad came to America with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Wildermuth. Mrs. Offerle's mother was born in St. Louis, where she grew to womanhood.

Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Offerle: Earl John, who was born in Munson township, April 10, 1897; and Della Irene, who was born on the home place, August 5, 1904.

Mr. Offerle is now the owner of a good farm which he purchased in 1904 and upon which he has erected a dwelling and other modern and substantial buildings. He manifests a spirit of undaunted enterprise in operating his farm, and it is now a carefully cultivated place. In politics he is a republican and has served for five years as school trustee, being the present incumbent in the office. He has also been school director for five years and is a stalwart champion of improvement along the line of public education. Fraternally he is connected with Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Mystic Workers of the World and the Yoemen of America. He is a well known resident of Munson township and is numbered among the worthy native sons of the county.

---

### JOHN H. McMASTER.

John H. McMaster, a young man of thirty-two years, is successfully engaged in farming on a tract of one hundred and fifty-four acres, situated in Weller township, three and a half miles west of Galva. He was born in Altona, January 28, 1877, a son of George and Julia (Shear) McMaster. The former was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March 5, 1847, and was but a young boy when he came to Henry county in 1858. In later life he spent fifteen years in Clay county, Nebraska, but returning to Henry county, purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres two and a half miles southeast of Nekoma, eighty rods north of the Knox county line, which he still operates. The mother, who is a daughter of Henry Shear, a well known farmer of Altona, is a graduate of the Galesburg high school. Both Mr. and Mrs. George McMaster are well known in Henry county and are numbered among its most upright and honorable citizens.

John H. McMaster was but a young lad when the family removed from Knox county, Illinois, to Clay county, Nebraska, and it was in the schools of Harvard, Nebraska, that he acquired his educational training. He was reared to the duties of the home farm there and also engaged in threshing, in which he was quite successful. In 1901 he returned with his parents to the home of his infancy and early boyhood and also operated a threshing machine here for several seasons and in addition gave his attention to farming pursuits. In the spring of 1906 he leased the farm on which he still makes his home. It contains one hundred and fifty-four acres, and is conveniently located three and a half miles south of Galva. This farm is notable through a somewhat peculiar incident. In a field, which is now used for pasturage, may be seen the remains of a cave which in the early days was used by horse thieves, who infested this section, as a hiding place for their plunder. Mr. McMaster owns an interest in the Galva Grain Threshers Company. He has been successful in the various lines to which he has bent his energies and is now numbered among the representative farmers and business men of Weller township.

Mr. McMaster was married on the 30th of December, 1903, to Miss Mamie Kelly, a daughter of William Kelly, a well known farmer residing near Nekoma. Mrs. McMaster is now thirty-two years of age and is the mother of a bright little daughter, E. Loraine, four years of age.

Mr. McMaster gives his political support to the republican party and is a Modern Woodman, belonging to the camp at Nekoma. He attends and supports the Congregational church at Galva. Both he and his wife are popular with a wide circle of friends, who find a cordial welcome at their hospitable home.

---

### JOHN ROOT.

John Root, practicing law at the Galva bar since 1893, and winning success by reason of close application and careful preparation without which advancement in the law is never secured, was born in Bishop Hill, Henry county, Illinois, October 25, 1849. His parents were John and Charlotte (Anderson) Root, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and the subject of this review was their only child. The maternal grandfather died in Sweden, after which his widow came to America and spent her last days at Bishop Hill. In early manhood John Root, Sr., came to the United States and served as a soldier in the Mexican war. Almost immediately afterward, or about 1848, he established his home at Bishop Hill, where he lived for a short time and later removed to Chicago, where he died in the early '50s. His wife survived him and passed away at Galva, February 22, 1905, at the advanced age of eighty years and nine months.

John Root, whose name introduces this record, was reared at Bishop Hill with the colony that settled there, spending his youth as a farm boy, devoting much of his time to the mastery of those branches of learning which were taught in the public schools. In 1862, when the colony disbanded, with his mother and her two sisters, he began farming on about fifty acres of land two miles southwest of Bishop Hill, which land he still retained, with some additions, being compelled to establish his title thereto in the supreme court of Illinois. In 1872 he became a student at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, and also spent a period at Bryant & Stratton Business College in Chicago. The profession of law seemed to him an attractive field and in preparation for practice he began reading in the office and under the direction of Judge Bigelow, of Galva, and was admitted to the bar in March, 1880. In the meantime he taught a country school during the winter months for five or six years. Sixteen years ago, or in 1893, he removed to Galva and has practiced here continuously since. In the scholastic year of 1888-9 he pursued a course in the Union College of Law, a branch of Northwestern University at Chicago and throughout his professional career he has continued his reading and study, familiarizing himself with principle and precedent and gaining an intimate knowledge of the law whereby he is enabled to try in capable manner any case that is likely to be brought before the courts of the district.

On the 22d of June, 1874, Mr. Root was united in marriage to Miss Betsy Ogren, a daughter of Eric and Brita Ogren. Mrs. Root was born in Sweden and was only three years old when brought to the United States, her girlhood days being spent at Bishop Hill, where her mother died over twenty years ago. Her father died in Andover township, this county, when well advanced in years, and his parents passed away in Galva township and were buried at Bishop Hill. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Root have been born five children: Vincent J., Clarence, Amy, Ralph W. and Earl. The first named is practicing law in partnership with his father, having graduated from the Northwestern University Law School. He married Christine Wing and they make their home in Galva. The second son died when little more than three years of age. Amy is the wife of Manfred Peterson and they have one son, Lyle M. Ralph is a graduate of the Northwestern University Law School, and Earl is attending high school.

The family home is a fine residence in Galva which Mr. Root erected in 1892. He also owns farm lands near his home in Galva and his property is the visible evidence of his industrious habits and of the success which he has attained in professional circles. He belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F., and also to the Modern Woodmen camp. His political views accord with the principles of the republican party and for the past ten years he has been and still is the master in chancery of Henry county, having been appointed by Judge Bigelow in 1899 and reappointed by Judge Graves. His devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial and at the bar he has made a record which places him among the ablest lawyers of the district.

---

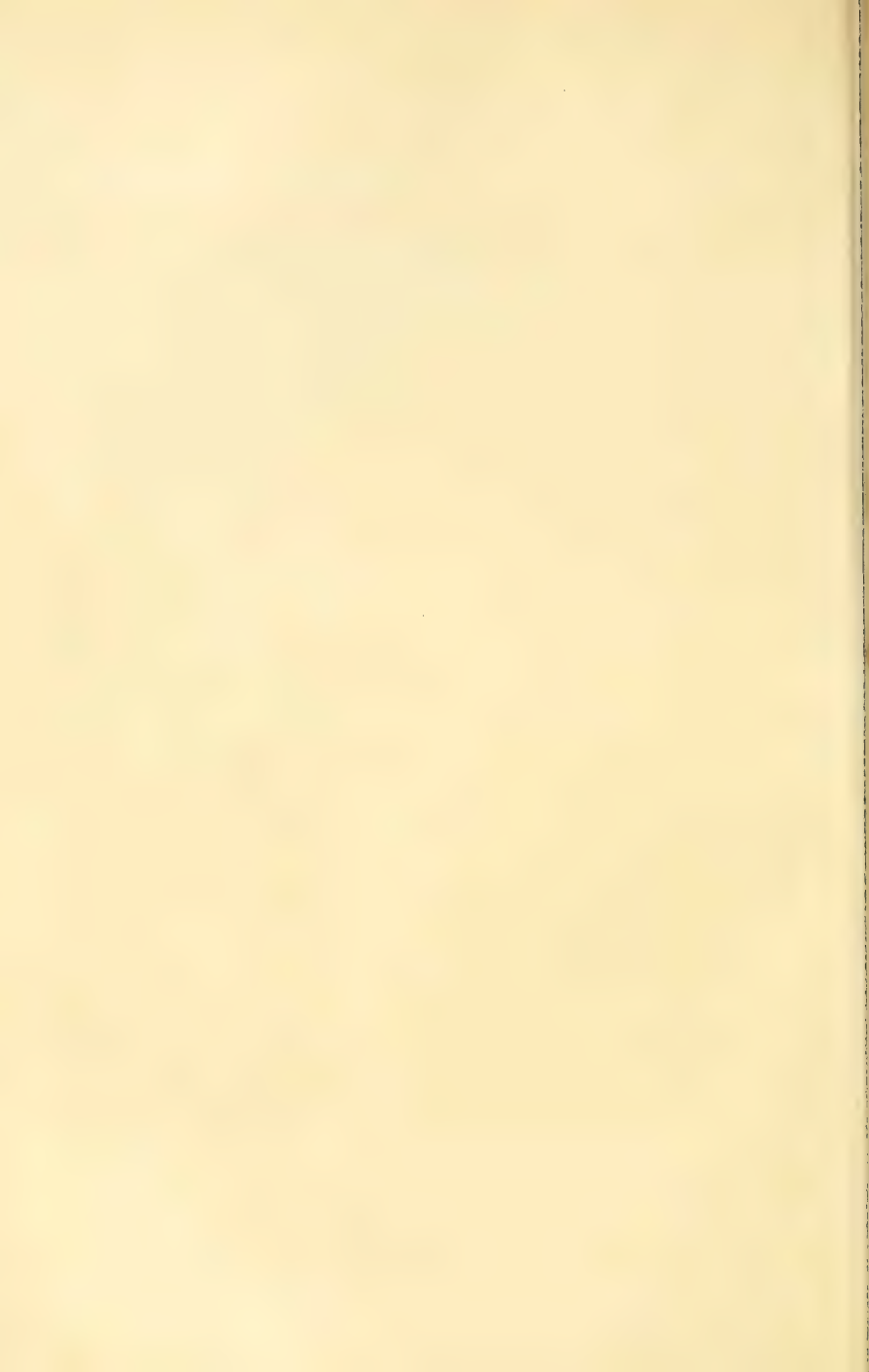
### FREDERICK A. HURLBUTT.

Frederick A. Hurlbutt, one of the most extensive landowners and successful agriculturists of Henry county, makes his home on section 6, Galva township. His birth occurred in the town of Dalton, Coos county, New Hampshire, on the 9th of November, 1831, his parents being Alba and Laura (Osgood) Hurlbutt, likewise natives of the old Granite state. The paternal grandfather, Nathaniel Hurlbutt, was a farmer by occupation. He was born February 16, 1760, and died in New Hampshire on the 13th of April, 1839. He was married August 12, 1785, to Sabrina Green, who had also attained a ripe old age at the time of her demise. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Levi Osgood, was likewise born in New Hampshire and followed farming as a life work. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Susan Osgood, lived to a good old age. They reared a family of four children, namely: Hannah, Laura, Caroline and Willard.

Alba Hurlbutt, the father of Frederick A. Hurlbutt, was a physician by profession and in 1840 took up his abode at Truro, Knox county, Illinois, where he successfully practiced medicine during the remainder of his life. He passed away in 1858, at the age of sixty-four years, and his wife, who was called to her final rest on the 14th of March, 1871, was also sixty-four years of age at the time of her death. They had a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, as follows: Hubbard, Edmund and Nathaniel, all of whom have passed away;



*F. A. Kurland*



Laura, the deceased wife of Leander Taylor; Frederick A., of this review; Susan, the wife of Alexander Taylor, of Abilene, Kansas; Francis, a resident of Knox county, Illinois; Charles, who is deceased; and one who died in infancy.

Frederick A. Hurlbutt, who was a little lad of nine years when he came to this state with his parents, grew to manhood on his father's farm in Knox county. The father gave his attention to the practice of medicine and left the active work of the fields to his sons. Mr. Hurlbutt of this review attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and remained under the parental roof until he attained the age of twenty-eight years. On starting out in business life on his own account he purchased some young cattle, broke prairie and engaged in general farming. He also bought a house and lot in Altona, which he subsequently traded for a quarter section of land in Iowa. In 1858 he broke eighty acres of land in Burns township, Henry county, for which he had traded his quarter section in Iowa. As the years passed by and his financial resources increased, owing to his untiring energy and good management, he added to his acreage from time to time by additional purchase until his landed holdings now embrace one thousand acres in Henry county and one hundred and sixty acres in Polk county, Nebraska. When it first came into his possession, nearly all of the land which he now owns in this county was only raw prairie, but he has transformed it into rich and productive farming property which readily responds to the cultivation that is bestowed upon it. The property is all well improved and in one tract, though there are six residences upon it and it is divided into different farms. Mr. Hurlbutt is likewise a director in the Galva State Bank and is widely recognized as one of the most successful agriculturists and prosperous citizens of the county.

On the 31st of October, 1860, Mr. Hurlbutt was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Osgood, who was born in Coos county, New Hampshire, April 15, 1839, her parents being Willard and Mary (Perry) Osgood, likewise natives of the old Granite state. In 1841 they took up their abode in Knox county, Illinois, where Willard Osgood passed away in 1844. The demise of his wife occurred in Nebraska. Unto them had been born three sons and a daughter, namely: Levi, Lewis, Caroline and Willard. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Hurlbutt was Levi Osgood, who was the maternal grandfather of Mr. Hurlbutt.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born nine children, the record of whom is as follows: Edgar, the eldest, resides on one of his father's farms. Elmer, who also makes his home on that farm, wedded Miss Effie Michaels, by whom he has four children: Earl, Marion, Edna and Van Nice. Levi, who resides on another of his father's farms, has been married three times. He first wedded Miss Marguerite Sewell, by whom he had two children, Leo and Marguerite, and subsequent to her death was joined in wedlock to Miss Pearl Crowell, who was called to her final rest shortly afterward. He then married Miss Belle Murchison and they now have a son. Frederick, who also lives on one of his father's farms, wedded Miss Winnie Hamilton, by whom he has two children, Hazel and Raymond. Charles, who likewise resides on a farm belonging to his father, was married to Miss Ethel Stanturf and has a daughter, Elsie. Frank is still at home. Minnie is the wife of John Peugh and resides in Loup City, Nebraska. She has four daughters: Gladys, Nettie, Zelda and Laurice. Jennie

gave her hand in marriage to Frank Penny and they make their home on one of her father's farms. Zelda is the wife of Hubbard Hurlbutt and resides in Pasadena, California. The mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 31st of March, 1905, when she had attained the age of sixty-five years. Her demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for she had an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community.

Mr. Hurlbutt gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and has done effective service for the cause of education as a school director, which office he held for many years. Few men have more intimate knowledge of the history of this part of the state or have longer witnessed its growth and progress than he, and he relates many interesting incidents concerning the early days when this region was largely an unsettled district, the prairie land having been unclaimed and uncultivated, while only here and there was a settlement to give evidence that the tide of emigration was flowing westward. He has now passed the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey and receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has traveled thus far on this earthly pilgrimage and whose career has been at all times upright and honorable.

---

#### EMERY JUDSON RECORD.

Emery Judson Record, an industrious and enterprising citizen of Cambridge, is ranked among Henry county's native sons, his birth having occurred on the 28th of August, 1869. On both the paternal and maternal side he comes from families long represented in Pennsylvania, members of the Record family having originally come to that state from Scotland. The parents of our subject were Benjamin J. and Sarah A. (Deets) Record, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of Andrew Jackson Record on another page of this volume. The father, who was also a native of the Keystone state, was a farmer, devoting his time and attention to that occupation up to about sixteen years prior to his demise, when he retired from active business life and removed to Cambridge, where he passed away on December 31, 1905, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife still survives, as does four of their children: Andrew J., who resides in Cambridge; Benjamin Sylvanus, a resident of Woodward, Iowa; Frank S., also making his home in Cambridge; and Emery J., of this review. They lost two children, Ella J., the deceased wife of Perry Dickerson, and Florence, who passed away in infancy.

In Osco township on his father's farm Emery Judson Record was reared to manhood and in the meantime acquired his education in the district schools and in the public schools of Cambridge. When not engaged with his textbooks he assisted his father in the work of the farm, and his time was thus employed until the year 1890, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Cambridge. In 1896 he established himself in the bakery and confectionery business, being thus identified with the business interests of the city until 1908, and during the intervening years he became very successful in his

undertaking. In the latter year he sold out and since that time has been in the employ of Johnson & Record, lumber dealers, of which firm his brother, A. J. Record, is junior partner.

On November 18, 1896, Mr. Record was united in marriage to Miss Mabel E. Vaughan, a daughter of Edmund A. and Althea (Bissel) Vaughan, and a native of Cambridge, Illinois. Her parents were both natives of Vermont who, coming to Cambridge, Illinois, at an early date, were numbered among the pioneer settlers of this district. Here the father carried on a shop for some time and later he removed to Amboy, where he passed away in 1904, at the age of sixty years. His widow then removed to California, where she still makes her home near Sacramento. In their family were four children: Blanch, the wife of Ulysses S. Smith, a resident of Sacramento, California; Mabel E., the wife of Mr. Record; Grace, the deceased wife of Arthur Harrington; and Clayton Vaughan, residing in Fair Oaks, near Sacramento. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Record was blessed with two children, Neva Evelyn and June Adaline.

Mr. Record's religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Congregational church, while he is prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and also to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M. At the polls he gives stalwart support to the republican party, and is at all times interested in party affairs, but the emoluments and honors of public office have no attraction for him, preferring as he does to direct his entire energies to the conduct of his personal affairs. His has been an active life in which he has been very successful, and his thrift and enterprise are manifest in the fact that he is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in Lipscomb county, Texas, and also one hundred and sixty acres in Faulk county, South Dakota, all of which is in excellent condition and is a source of gratifying profit to him. He has at all times realized the value of perseverance and industry and throughout his entire business career these elements have been the salient characteristics. Having passed his entire life in this vicinity he has gained an extensive circle of friends who entertain for him high regard, while he enjoys the respect, confidence and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

---

### GEORGE A. TALCOTT.

Among Geneseo's native sons who in the years of manhood have become active factors in advancing the city's substantial development, is George A. Talcott, owner and publisher of the Enterprise. He was here born November 23, 1857, his parents being Dr. Edwin J. and Harriet (Johnson) Talcott, the former born in Rome, New York, and the latter, in the western part of the Empire state. Their family numbered seven children, but only three are now living, the brother of our subject being LeRoy Talcott, a resident of Chariton, Iowa, while the sister is Miss Agnes Talcott, of Oak Park, Illinois. Dr. Talcott had graduated from a medical school and entered upon the practice of his profession at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. In his early manhood he had located in Rock Island county, Illinois, but afterward removed to Henry

county, and it was from the latter that he enlisted as a private in 1861, joining an independent company. With his command he was sent into Missouri, when General Price made his raid in that state, and later he and almost the entire company enlisted in the Eighth Kansas Regiment. Subsequently he was promoted to assistant surgeon with the rank of captain and remained with the army for a little more than four years. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland in the division commanded by General Thomas. Captain Trego, who commanded the company, was killed at the battle of Chickamauga, and the Eighth Kansas lost many of its gallant soldiers, for it participated in many of the hardest engagements of the war.

When hostilities were over and the country no longer needed his aid Dr. Talcott located at Spring Hill, where he practiced medicine until his death, which occurred in August, 1892, when he was sixty-six years of age. His wife, who was a consistent member of the Congregational church, passed away in January, 1882, when about forty-six years of age. In his political views Dr. Talcott was a stalwart republican and for many years served in public office. He acted as postmaster at Spring Hill for a number of years, as school director for many years and was also a member of the board of supervisors for one term.

Not only were the parents of George A. Talcott well known as early residents of this part of the state, but the grandparents also settled in Illinois in pioneer times. His paternal grandfather, Asel Talcott, a native of New York, became one of the early residents of Rock Island county, Illinois, and also cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Henry county, when the work of improvement and development had been carried forward there to only a slight degree. He was a farmer by occupation and also established and operated the Talcott ferry which was the only ferry on the Rock river between Rock Island and Dixon. The maternal grandfather of George A. Talcott was Jeremiah H. Johnson, who removed from the Empire state to Illinois about 1840 and settled at Sharon in the northern part of Henry county. He was a farmer by occupation but after devoting some time to the tilling of the soil opened a store in Sharon. A few years later he removed to Moline, Illinois, where he conducted a hotel, and following his retirement he returned to Henry county, his death occurring in Geneseo when he was more than seventy years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Harriet Getty, survived him for a number of years.

George A. Talcott was reared at Spring Hill, just across the line in Whiteside county, and remained with his parents until he had attained his majority. He acquired his education by attending successively the Spring Hill public schools, the Geneseo high school and the Valparaiso (Indiana) Normal. He afterward engaged in teaching for two years and subsequently devoted several years to clerking in a store in Spring Hill, during which time he gained practical and comprehensive knowledge concerning commercial methods. Ambitious to engage in business on his own account he then opened a general store which he conducted for several years, and after selling out he devoted ten years to general farming. On leaving his farm he took up his abode at Prophetstown, Illinois, where he continued for three years, and in 1905 he came to Geneseo, where he engaged in merchandising

for two years. He next purchased an interest in the Geneseo Enterprise, forming a partnership with Phineas Marrow. The paper is published semi-weekly and is independent in politics. It is the successor to the Geneseo News, which was established by Henry L. Kiner, who remained its publisher for twenty-eight years.

In April, 1882, Mr. Talcott was united in marriage to Miss Kate E. Fuller, a daughter of John P. and Almira (Lamphere) Fuller. Four children were born of this union; Bertha, Laura, Clara and Harriet A. The eldest daughter is the wife of the Rev. W. B. Millard, of Morgan Park, Illinois, and they have one son, Harper. Mrs. Talcott died September 26, 1908, at the age of fifty-three years, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends who had learned to esteem her for her many good qualities of heart and mind. In his political views Mr. Talcott is a republican and while living in Whiteside county served for six years as a member of the board of supervisors, acting as chairman of the board at one time. He was also a member of the board of review, was town clerk and for fifteen years was school treasurer. His attention is now given almost entirely to the Geneseo Telephone Company, in which he has a financial interest, and yet he is never remiss in the duties of citizenship, cooperating in a private way as well as in his professional capacity in all of the movements and measures which are directly beneficial to the community.

---

### JOHN C. BANNISTER.

John C. Bannister is a prominent representative of business interests which have made Kewanee an important industrial center. He was born in Evanston, Illinois, November 15, 1860, his parents being Henry and Lucy (Kimball) Bannister. His father, the Rev. Henry Bannister, D. D., was one of the professors in the Garrett Biblical Institute, the theological department of the Northwestern University. John C. Bannister, after mastering the elementary branches of learning, continued his studies in the Northwestern University from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts as a member of the class of 1883. In 1886 he received the honorary degree of Master of Arts and during the initiative period of his career was engaged in teaching, being for a time vice principal in the Princeton township high school at Princeton, Illinois. During the latter period his leisure hours were devoted to study and research along the lines of engineering to which his taste and talent naturally directed him, and to the field of mechanical pursuits he turned his energies when in January, 1891, he resigned his position at Princeton and came to Kewanee to accept a position as foreman of the fittings department of the Western Tube Company. A year later he was made superintendent of the pipe finishing department and occupied that position until March, 1898, when he left the mill and assumed a place in the office as mechanical engineer and assistant to A. M. Hewlett, who was then acting as general superintendent as well as vice president of the Western Tube Company. Mr. Bannister had charge of the mechanical engineering work and secondary responsibility in operations. He continued in that position until

1902 when he resigned and entered the employ of the Kewanee Boiler Company as superintendent. In 1905, he resigned and returned to the Tube works as chief engineer, having charge of the entire engineering department for the company. Upon the death of Mr. Hewlett, December 20, 1907, he was made manager of the Western Tube Company, and on the 1st of January, 1908, after the reorganization of the business and a change of the name to National Tube Company, Kewanee Works, he was made manager. He is thus in control of the most important industrial enterprise in this city and his broad scientific knowledge and his practical experience combined with his executive ability to make him one of the most forceful and valued factors in the business life of the community. His advancement has followed as the logical result of his mental equipment and diligence and his success is therefore well merited.

On the 25th of December, 1886, Mr. Bannister was married to Miss Frances Bryant, of Princeton, Illinois, a daughter of Elijah W. Bryant, a farmer of that locality. Seven children have been born to them, namely: Bryant, Kimball, Elizabeth, Laura, John Howard, Francis Sue and Mary Willard.

Mr. and Mrs. Bannister are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in its work take active and helpful interest. He is now serving as one of the trustees thereof and is active in Bible class work. He is a member of the Ymmietdrah Society and the advisor of the Methodist branch of one hundred and forty members. In his fraternal relations he is a Mason and Elk, having attained the Knight Templar degree in the former organization. He has also taken a deep interest in Masonry and has passed through all of the chairs of the lodge and has served as master. He belongs to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is interested in its success but not an aspirant for office. In 1906, however, he was elected alderman from the fourth ward and received endorsement of his first term in his reelection, but soon afterward resigned, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs which are now extensive and demand all of his time. In all outdoor sports he is an enthusiast, being especially interested in baseball and golf, and these furnish him recreation from the onerous duties which devolve upon him in his business connections. His record is characterized by a masterful grasp of every problem that has been presented for solution in the line of his duty and gradually he has worked his way upward until his success places him among the men of influence in Henry county.

---

#### ROBERT HALL CRAIG.

Robert Hall Craig, who passed away on the 18th of May, 1909, was for a number of years prominently identified with the agricultural and stock raising interests of Henry county and at one time was the largest landowner in his vicinity, having altogether ten hundred and eighty-four acres in Wethersfield township. His birth occurred in Topsham, Orange county, Vermont, on the 1st of January, 1826, his parents being James and Margaret (Dickey) Craig, who were natives of Scotland and Vermont respectively. Robert Dickey, the ma-

ternal grandfather of our subject, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. James Craig, the father of Robert H. Craig, was about ten years of age when he was brought to the United States by his widowed mother, and throughout his active business career he followed general agricultural pursuits in Vermont. In 1853 he made his way to Elmira, Stark county, Illinois, and there passed away twenty-four months later at the age of seventy-five years. A few years afterward, at Neponset, Bureau county, Illinois, his widow was called to her final rest.

Robert Hall Craig was one of a large family of children and early in life was thrown upon his own resources, going to work when but ten years of age. Securing employment as a farm hand, he was thus busily engaged until twenty-two years of age, when he was married and purchased a tract of land in Orange county, Vermont. After he had devoted his energies to its cultivation for a couple of years he had the misfortune to break his leg and was unable to do any work for two years. At the end of that time he was obliged to sell his farm and in the fall of 1850 removed westward, taking up his abode on a tract of eighty acres which he purchased in Elmira, Stark county, Illinois. When a year had passed he disposed of the property and was then engaged in the operation of rented land for three years. On the expiration of that period he bought a farm of one hundred and ten acres four miles east of Wethersfield, in Stark county, residing thereon until he sold the place in 1871. In that year he purchased a quarter of section of land in the southwestern part of Wethersfield township and was there actively and successfully engaged in the conduct of his agricultural interests until September, 1896, gradually extending the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase from time to time until it embraced ten hundred and eighty-four acres of rich and arable land. After putting aside the active work of the fields he spent seven years in Galva but on the expiration of that period sold his home there and took up his abode in Wethersfield, buying a comfortable residence at No. 111 Tenney street, where his remaining days were spent. His demise occurred on the 18th of May, 1909, when he was in the eighty-third year of his age. On his arrival in this state his cash capital amounted to only two hundred dollars, but he prospered in his undertakings and at the time of his retirement was the largest landowner in his vicinity. He was thoroughly familiar with the work of farming from a scientific as well as practical standpoint and was so thorough and painstaking in his methods that his land not only yielded the best grade of produce but also the largest possible quantity. In addition to his agricultural interests he also gave considerable attention to stock raising, annually shipping a carload of shorthorn cattle and two carloads of Poland China hogs. He was likewise engaged in the raising of horses on an extensive scale. In all of his business dealings he was characterized by an integrity and uprightness that won him the unqualified confidence and trust of those with whom he was associated and his word was considered as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal.

On the 23d of March, 1848, in Topsham township, Orange county, Vermont, Mr. Craig was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Fellows, a native of that county and a daughter of John and Lucy Fellows. When nineteen years of age she began work in the cotton and woolen mills of Lowell, Massachusetts, and was

thus employed until she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Craig when a young lady of twenty-one. This union was blessed with a family of ten children, nine sons and one daughter, the record of whom is as follows: Henry H., a carpenter residing in Wethersfield; Frank H., who is the principal of the Wethersfield school and makes his home with his mother; Melvin, a farmer of Saxon; Dudley, who formerly served as an alderman of Kewanee; Burton and Elmer, who are numbered among the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Wethersfield township; Ellen Jane, James and John, all of whom died in childhood; and Fred, who passed away in 1883 at the age of eighteen years. All of the sons assisted in the operation of the home farm until they had attained their majority, after which the father paid them good wages and when they were ready to start out for themselves he gave them a tract of eighty acres and sold them as much more land as they wished to buy.

Handicapped in youth by obstacles and difficulties which would have utterly discouraged many a man of less determined spirit, Mr. Craig resolutely set to work and eventually won the prosperity which ever rewards earnest, persistent and well directed labor. His record may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others who are dependent upon their own resources for whatever success they may hope to achieve. He was a man of excellent character, beloved by his family and honored and respected in the community, so that all sympathize with the household from which such a light has gone out. Mrs. Craig makes her home in Wethersfield and has a host of warm friends throughout the county where she has now long resided.

---

### JOHN F. SMITH.

One of the most influential men of Edford township and also one of its wealthiest farmers is John F. Smith, who for many years has been the township supervisor. He has likewise a reputation as a feeder and producer of beef cattle and his home, on section 31, is one of the notable farms of the locality. He was born on the land on which he now lives and in the house in which his son Arthur A. resides, November 10, 1854, and is the son of William F. and Caroline (Emmert) Smith. The father, who was a native of Prussia, came to America at the age of nineteen and, landing at Baltimore, Maryland, went to work in that state as a farm hand. After a few years, by dint of much saving, he was able to buy six horses and engaged in hauling goods from Baltimore, Maryland, to Wheeling, West Virginia, and to other places in those states and in Ohio. He followed that line of work until the railroads invading the territory destroyed his business and compelled him to seek a land of greater opportunities. Accordingly he and a brother John started westward. They went down the Ohio river, then up the Mississippi to Alton, and across the prairies to Henry county, Illinois, working for varying periods of time at different places along their line of progress. The brothers remained for some weeks in Jacksonville, and perhaps would have made it their home save for the prevalence of ague there at the time, which compelled them to continue their wanderings



Mr and Mrs John F. Smith



till they came to a more suitable place. In 1850 they located on the farm on which John F. Smith was born. They bought one hundred and sixty acres apiece from the Davenports, who had put up a house, the frame of which is still standing. It had been hewn out of native oaks and the sawed lumber had been hauled by ox-teams from Chicago. After making their purchase they returned to Cumberland, Maryland, and sold their teams preparatory to a permanent removal, and in the spring of 1851 they came to Henry county, bringing with them their families. They went down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi as they had done on their first trip and landed at Rock Island, whence they drove across the country to Edford township and their new home. This did indeed prove to be a land of opportunities, for good fortune attended his earnest efforts, and William Smith was able to add steadily to the original tract until he had over a thousand acres of good, arable land.

While he was engaged in teaming in Cumberland, Maryland, William Smith became acquainted with and married Miss Caroline Emmert, a native of Bavaria, who had come to this country with her parents. There were six children of this union, one of whom was born in Maryland. They were Maggie A., who married Dr. A. I. Lawbaugh, of Calumet, Michigan; William F., who died at the age of three; John F., of this sketch; Carrie, who is the wife of George J. Smith and lives in Geneseo; Ella, who married James Stevenson, of Geneseo; and Emma, who, unmarried, resides in Geneseo. A stanch democrat in his political views, the father was yet never an office-seeker, though concerned for the welfare of the township. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, and after coming to this locality assisted in establishing the English church of that denomination. He was a friend of education and made his prime duty to upbuild the interests of the community. He passed away February 26, 1902, and his wife survived him only until November 18 of that year.

John F. Smith spent his boyhood on the home farm and in the common schools received a good English education. At the age of nineteen he took a course of six months in Bryant & Stratton Business College at Davenport, Iowa, and immediately after assumed charge of four hundred and eighty acres which his father had purchased in Western township. Until he was twenty-two years of age he remained in the employ of his father and then for six years longer engaged in farming in Western township on his own account. By diligent efforts and excellent management he has been able to win a success that is almost phenomenal, for besides the three hundred and twenty acres he inherited he has been able to buy land until he now owns thirteen hundred and fifty acres in Henry county and four hundred and eighty acres in South Dakota. General farming demands much of his attention, but he gives every year more and more time to the breeding of cattle and the high grade of his stock has made for him a wide reputation.

On the 6th of March, 1882, Mr. Smith wedded Miss Mary E. Smith, of Livingston county, Illinois. She is a native of Maryland, and is a daughter of Charles A. and Elizabeth (Hazel) Smith, who had been friends of the parents of John F. Smith in Maryland and after the former came to Illinois they revived the old acquaintanceship. Mr. and Mrs. John F. Smith have had six children. Walter W. married Miss Velmya Howlett and lives in Osco township.

Arthur A. married Miss Abbie Richmond and lives on the home place. Everett E. married Miss Rebecca Brown, of Hoopole, Yorktown township, and lives in Edford township. William F. is at home. John Wesley and George Leslie, the youngest, are twins. All the older children have graduated from the high school and the others are either attending school in Geneseo or at Knox College, for Mr. Smith fully appreciates the value of a good education. In fact for twenty-five years he has been a school director and has used his influence toward educational advancement in Edford township.

A democrat in his political views, he has filled the office of supervisor of his township since 1902. He was first elected to serve as chairman of the board to fill out the unexpired term of the late Thomas Nowers in 1907 and has since continuously held that position. During the period of his incumbency substantial improvements have gone steadily ahead. Reared in the Lutheran faith, since he was sixteen he has been a member of the English church of that denomination in Morristown, the church his father did so much toward establishing. His wife and children also belong to the congregation and are actively interested in its work. Endowed by nature with those traits which make for success in life, he has employed the opportunities at his command with results that would be enviable were they not so evidently attained through honest work, guided by high principles.

---

### CARL J. JOHNSON.

Carl J. Johnson, successfully carrying on farming and stock-raising on an excellent farm in Weller township, is one of those representative American citizens who claim Sweden as the place of their nativity, and who have found, on this side of the Atlantic, opportunity for advancement and progress in business lines. His birth occurred in Smoland, Sweden, on the 26th of November, 1856, his parents being J. P. and Anna L. (Samuelson) Johnson, both natives of the same place, where they were reared and married. The father was a farmer in the old country and came to America in 1880, locating in Altona, Knox county, Illinois, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death, passing away in the winter of 1902. His wife still survives at the age of seventy-eight years and makes her home in Altona.

Reared to manhood in his native land, Carl J. Johnson attended the public schools of Sweden in the acquirement of his education, and later followed agricultural pursuits until twenty-two years of age, when he decided to come to the new world, rumors having reached him concerning the greater opportunities for business advancement here offered. Consequently in 1878 he bade adieu to home and friends and sailed for America, coming direct to Illinois. He located in Altona, Knox county, where he was engaged as a farm hand for about five years, when he went to Kansas and there took up a homestead claim. This made it necessary for him to spend a portion of each year upon the claim, which he continued to do for five years, the greater part of the time, however, being spent in working in Denver. At the end of eight years he returned to



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM F. SMITH



Altona and later leased a farm of eighty acres, which he operated for one year. He then came to his present farm in the spring of 1892, leasing one hundred and sixty acres. Later he leased eighty acres adjoining his original tract, so that he now leases an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres located on section 34, Weller township, Henry county. Almost all of the land is improved and under a high state of cultivation, and in connection with his general farming he engages in stock-raising, having on hand on an average of fifty head of cattle and from sixty to seventy-five head of hogs. He possesses good business ability and conducts his affairs in a strictly up-to-date and progressive manner, so that with the passing of the years he has been very successful and now occupies a place among the prosperous and substantial agriculturists of the township.

It was on the 19th of March, 1901, in Galesburg, Illinois, that Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Ida Bolano, a daughter of John Bolano, a well known farmer residing near Altona. He is a member of the Congregational church of Altona and also takes an active part in the social affairs of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson hold membership in the Swedish Lutheran church of Altona, while politically he gives stalwart support to the republican party. He is public spirited in his citizenship, closely identified with the interests of Henry county, and although born across the waters, is thoroughly American in thought and feeling. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to this country, for here, where individual effort is unhampered by caste or class, he has found the opportunities which he sought and has made steady advancement in the business world.

---

#### THOMAS PORTER LIKEN.

One of Geneseo's most genial and companionable gentlemen is Thomas Porter Liken, whose habit of seeing the humor in a situation and whose appreciation of those qualities which go to make up the sum of human happiness render him popular with his many friends. He is now living retired, enjoying a rest which he has surely earned and richly deserves. He was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1846, and is a son of Thomas and Sarah Ann (Sands) Liken. The father was born in Ireland and was only four years of age when brought to America, the family home being established in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. There resided Sarah Ann Sands and after the two had attained adult age they were united in marriage. In the year 1865 the father brought his family to Henry county, Illinois, and engaged in farming near Geneseo. He became a prominent and influential resident of the district, exercising a controlling influence in political and church circles and in regard to public affairs. He voted with the republican party, of which he was a stalwart champion. He served as school director and the cause of education found in him a stanch advocate. Both he and his wife were devoted members of the Presbyterian church, in which he filled the position of elder. They died within a year of each other, passing away about thirteen years ago, their remains be-

ing interred in Geneseo cemetery. The father came here before the railroads had been built through the town, the line extending only to LaSalle. His brother, John Liken, was a soldier in the Civil war and died in Andersonville prison. He also bought land in Geneseo before any road went through, and from LaSalle he hauled the timber used in the building of his house. His land consisted of eighty acres and is now in possession of Thomas P. Liken. The cheapest land which Thomas Liken, the father, purchased was bought at ten dollars per acre and now is worth two hundred and fifty dollars per acre. All that he had at the time of his death was probably worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. The house which Mr. Liken secured was purchased from Mr. Van Valkenburg, a former merchant of Geneseo, and although it was erected more than fifty years ago, with few alterations it is just as it stood originally, being surrounded by majestic trees in the midst of a spacious and handsome lawn. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Liken were the following children: William A., the eldest, enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and was killed at Petersburg June 18, 1864, his remains being taken back to Pennsylvania for burial. Florence is the wife of Pomeroy Hoffman, who lives in Los Angeles, California. Thomas P. is the next in the family. John F. is living at Gray, Iowa, and Samuel makes his home in Geneseo.

Thomas Porter Liken acquired his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and of Geneseo, being about eighteen years old when his parents removed to the latter place. After putting aside his text-books he assisted his father on the home farm until he attained his majority and then began farming for himself, taking up the task of tilling the fields upon one of the places belonging to his father. As his financial resources increased he bought property and from time to time would add an eighty-acre tract to his holdings until he became the possessor of four hundred and six acres of valuable land in Munson township, together with half a section in Minnesota. For a long period he busily engaged in cultivating his farm but at length resolved to enjoy in well earned retirement the fruits of his former toil and in 1896 removed to Geneseo, where he purchased a commodious and beautiful modern residence on Mechanic street. The home is in fine condition and stands in the midst of a beautiful and well kept lawn. For nine years after his removal to the city he employed a hired man and went back and forth to the farm, to which he gave personal supervision and on which he successfully engaged in raising stock. He now has a son on the place and has rented all of his land save one hundred acres which his son cultivates.

On the 28th of December, 1871, Mr. Liken was married to Miss Rachel Victoria Hill, who was born in West Virginia in 1850, a daughter of William T. and Elizabeth Hill, both of whom were natives of the Old Dominion, whence they came to Illinois, when their daughter was four years of age. They were farming people of Henry county, and Mr. Hill was closely identified with its agricultural development for a long period. Both he and his wife are now deceased. In their family were fourteen children, of whom two have passed away. The others are: John, who enlisted from Illinois as a soldier of the Civil war and was killed in battle; J. D., a resident of Geneseo; Elizabeth, who

is now Mrs. Dugdale and lives in Geneseo; Mrs. Liken; George, whose home is in Chicago; Mary, the wife of Adam Young, of Kansas; James, who is in Nebraska; Jennie, who is located at Cambridge, Illinois; Stephen, whose home is in Nebraska; Stella, the widow of William Lane, of Des Moines, Iowa; Ed, who is also located in Des Moines; and Dock, of Iowa.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Liken have been born five children and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. William Edward, the eldest, is a graduate of Geneseo Collegiate Institute and lives upon his father's farm. Maud, who is the widow of Joseph Combs, lives with her brother William and has one son, Herbert, now nine years of age. Clyde, who married Miss Bessie Childs, of Knoxville, Illinois, is now practicing dentistry, for having graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, he attended Knox College at Galesburg, a school in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the Chicago Dental College. Myrtle, who is a graduate of the Collegiate Institute of Geneseo, is the wife of Dixon Shaw, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, an employe in a bank. She lives near the birth-place of her father and has one son, Dixon, now in his first year. Grace May, the youngest of the family, is a graduate of the Geneseo high school.

Mr. Liken gives his political allegiance to the republican party at times but is quite independent in his views in politics. He is a prominent and valued member of the Presbyterian church, in which he has served as elder, and he has also been a trustee of the Collegiate Institute, acting in that capacity for several years. He was also its treasurer for two years and has been a school director for several years. His wife is likewise a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Liken belongs to the Odd Fellows Society and he and his wife are both connected with the Daughters of Rebekah. Mr. Liken is always genial and jovial in manner, is droll in his speech and courteous in his disposition, and these qualities have made him very popular throughout the county where he is widely known.

---

### CLINTON F. LUTHER.

Clinton F. Luther, who since 1904 has served continuously as justice of the peace and notary public in Geneseo, was born in Yorktown township, this county, on the 25th of October, 1869. He is descended from German ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Luther, was born August 1, 1788, in the kingdom of Byre, Germany, and thence emigrated to America, sailing on the 20th of June, 1822, and reaching the shores of the new world on the 22d of September, after a voyage of three months. He took up his abode in Warren county, Pennsylvania. In his native land he had learned the shoemaker's trade and while still a resident of Germany had served as one of the great Napoleon's bodyguards for seven years. After coming to America he lived for a time in the east and then removed to Illinois, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. He died at the age of seventy-one years, his remains being laid to rest in the Geneseo cemetery, while the grave of his wife, who passed away at the age of fifty-eight years, was made in Lake county, Illinois. They had a family of six sons and four daugh-

ters: Jacob; George; Peter; John; William; David; Mrs. Emeline Ott; Mrs. Mary Wolf; Mrs. Betsey Wilmott; and Louisa, who became the wife of Jacob Goemle.

Of this family John J. Luther, the father of our subject, was born in the Empire state and in his youthful days learned and followed the cabinetmaker's trade. When a young man he became a resident of Long Grove, Lake county, Illinois, where he followed his trade for seventeen years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Henry county, where he devoted the remainder of his life to general agricultural pursuits, making his home in Yorktown township, where he owned one hundred acres of rich and productive land, pleasantly located near the village of Hooppole. There his death occurred November 9, 1900, when he had reached the age of seventy-eight years and ten months. His wife survived him for a few years and died in Hooppole, February 16, 1905, at the age of seventy-six years and two months. Mrs. Luther bore the maiden name of Mary U. Fehlman and was born in Alsace-Lorraine when that district was under French dominion. She was a daughter of Martin Fehlman, also a native of Alsace-Lorraine and of German parentage. He married Barbara Erb, who was born in Alsace and died at an advanced age, while the death of Mr. Fehlman occurred when he was seventy-one years of age. Their family numbered five children, Martin, Christian, Saloma, Helen and Mary. The last named became the wife of John J. Luther and for many years they traveled life's journey happily together. Mrs. Luther had come with her parents from France in her girlhood days and the family home was established at Long Grove, Lake county, Illinois, where on the 18th of April, 1846, she gave her hand in marriage to John J. Luther. They were both members of the German Evangelical church and Mr. Luther, active in community affairs, was called to serve in various local offices. In their family were the following children: John J.; Sarah, the wife of George Engle; Martin; William D.; Mary A., the wife of Edward E. Smith; Louisa B., the wife of A. Miller; Hannah M., deceased, who remained unmarried; Daniel E.; Rosetta A., the wife of George Hoffman; Irvin E.; Clinton F.; and Laura Josephine, who became the wife of John Rensch.

Clinton F. Luther, whose name introduces this review, was reared on the old homestead farm in Henry county and after acquiring his early education in the district schools entered the Northwestern Normal, where he completed his more specifically literary studies. He afterward engaged in teaching school for several years and then read law in the office of Judge George E. White for two years. On account of failing eyesight, however, he was obliged to abandon his preparation for the bar and turn his attention to commercial pursuits, becoming connected with the furniture and undertaking business. He also spent five years in the newspaper business at Walnut and at Sheffield. In 1904, he was elected justice of the peace in Geneseo and has served in that capacity continuously since and also as notary public. His decisions are strictly fair and impartial, being based upon the law and the equity in the case, and have won for him "golden opinions from all sorts of people."

On the 23d of June, 1896, Mr. Luther was married to Miss Nina D. Withrow, who was born in Phenix township, Henry county, Illinois, and is a daughter of John W. and Arvilla (Allen) Withrow. Mr. and Mrs. Luther have two children,

Francis Allen and John W. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Luther affiliates with Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he is loyal to any cause which it espouses. His long residence in this county has made him widely known, while his sterling traits of character have gained for him the high regard which is uniformly given him.

---

### NICHOLAS JAY DEMERATH.

Nicholas Jay Demerath is prominently connected with that profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. In 1903 he entered upon the practice of law at Kewanee, where his ability has brought to him a large clientage of an important character. One of Illinois' native sons, he was born in Mendota, September 17, 1869, his parents being Peter and Catherine (Lenz) Demerath. His father has long engaged in business as a manufacturer of wagons and carriages, and both he and his wife still survive in Ohio, Bureau county, Illinois. They were natives of Germany and came to the middle west in the early '50s, at which time they took up their abode in this state.

Nicholas J. Demerath pursued his early education in the public schools of Ohio, Bureau county, and then entered the employ of the government, spending ten years in the railway mail service department. Afterward he prepared for a professional career as a student in the law department of the Northwestern University at Chicago. He completed his course there in 1900 and in the same year was admitted to the bar, after which he began practice in Chicago in the office of Fassett & Andrews. He continued with that firm for two years and in 1903 came to Kewanee, which he believed might prove a profitable field of labor. Here he formed a partnership with H. S. Pomeroy under the firm name of Pomeroy & Demerath, which relations existed until July 1, 1908, when Mr. Pomeroy withdrew, and Mr. Demerath continued practice alone until February 1, 1909. On that day he formed a partnership with Robert C. Morse under the present style of Morse & Demerath. This firm does a large corporation as well as general practice and the partners are well versed in the principles of jurisprudence. Mr. Demerath's success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his capability in this line. He is a strong advocate with the jury and concise in his appeal before the court. Much of the success which has attended him in his professional career is undoubtedly due to the fact that in no instance will he permit himself to go into court without careful and thorough preparation, and therefore his presentation is forceful, being characterized by a terse but decisive logic and correct application of the law to the point at issue.

Mr. Demerath was married in April, 1905, to Miss Grace M. Broad, of Mendota, Illinois, who died December 8, 1908. He has one son, LeRoy. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and Elks, who find in him an exemplary representative. He is interested in community affairs, giving active and helpful

cooperation along many lines of general progress, and in 1909 he was elected a member of the library board. He is, however, preeminently a lawyer, with deep interest in judicial affairs, while his devotion to his clients is proverbial.

---

### DAVID L. COWDEN.

Among the retired farmers of Cambridge is numbered David L. Cowden, who derives his income from five hundred acres of valuable land in Henry county. His life record presents many substantial phases of good citizenship and of business ability and enterprise and he therefore deserves mention among the representative residents of this part of the state. He claims Ohio as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Guernsey county, December 13, 1845. His parents were William and Marian (Rogers) Cowden, the former a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and the latter of Ohio. The father, a farmer by occupation, came to this county in 1851, settling in Burns township, where he purchased about six hundred acres of land, there improving a large and valuable farm upon which he reared his family, being well known for a number of years as a representative agriculturist of the community. He died on the old home place in 1891, at the very venerable age of ninety-three years, having long survived his wife, who died in 1852 at the age of thirty-six years. They were Christian people, holding membership in the Baptist church. Of their family of twelve children only three are now living: David L.; Thomas C., a resident of Burns township; and Jacob G., who is living in Enid, Oklahoma. In order the twelve children of the family were: William W., Mary E., Joseph R., Margaret L., Deborah E., David L., John H., Thomas C., Jacob G., Phebe C., Harriet M., and Lucinda J.

David L. Cowden was six years of age when he came to Henry county with his parents. He was reared upon his father's farm and pursued his education in the district schools, devoting the periods of vacation to work in the fields and to the enjoyment of such sports as usually claimed the attention of lads of this period. He was nineteen years of age when in 1865 he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company D, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he was connected until the close of hostilities, doing active duty at the front during that period. When the war was over Mr. Cowden returned home and cultivated a part of his father's farm until he found it possible to purchase forty acres, which constituted the nucleus of his present possessions. As he prospered in his undertakings he wisely invested in other land until he had accumulated five hundred acres, of which three hundred acres is in Burns township, one hundred and sixty acres in Cambridge township, and forty acres in Kewanee township. He lived principally in Burns township but in the spring of 1895 removed to the village of Cambridge and that year purchased a fine home which he still occupies, it being one of the beautiful residences of the town.

Mr. Cowden has enjoyed a happy home life for more than four decades. On the 31st of October, 1867, he wedded Miss Harriet Cosner, a native of Burns

township and daughter of David and Emmeline (Dufur) Cosner, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Her father was a son of William Cosner who was born in Virginia and became one of the early settlers of Ohio, while later he cast in his lot with the pioneers of Illinois, arriving in this state about 1836. He married Harriet Neal and lived to the age of seventy-five years, passing away in 1871. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Cowden were David and Susan Dufur, also early residents of Henry county, Illinois. They removed to Murray, Iowa, when well advanced in years. Their family numbered ten children.

Mr. and Mrs. David Cosner, the parents of Mrs. Cowden, were very early settlers of Henry county, establishing their home in Burns township, where they reared their family. They died in Cambridge, the former in the fall of 1895 at the age of sixty-nine years, the latter in 1903 at the age of sixty-nine. They had two daughters and a son: Mrs. Harriet Cowden, Lovinna and Charles.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cowden have been born two children: Eva, who is the wife of B. F. Nance, of Galesburg, Illinois, and has one daughter, Daisy; and George W., who wedded Mary Johnson and is farming in Cambridge township. Politically, Mr. Cowden is a democrat, and his official service covers several terms as school director, school trustee and road commissioner. His record as a business man and citizen is altogether commendable, characterized by devotion to the public good and to those principles which are elements in honorable, upright manhood.

---

### FRANK C. SWIGER.

Henry county is preeminently an agricultural center for its rich lands offer splendid inducements to him who would win a living in tilling the soil or by stock raising upon its fine pasture lands. Frank C. Swiger is well known as both a farmer and a breeder of pure bred polled Durham cattle and Chester White hogs. He has an excellent farm on section 9, Munson township, the place of one hundred and sixty acres belonging to his father. The latter owns one hundred and eighty-five acres altogether in Munson township, a part of this being on section 16 and part on section 15. In carrying on his work Frank C. Swiger follows the most progressive and modern methods, and as the years have gone by success has attended his labors. He was born June 12, 1871, in the house which now gives him shelter, his parents being Carl and Theresa (Mueller) Swiger, who are now residents of Geneseo. Frank C. Swiger is the younger of two children, his sister being Mrs. Hattie Hutchinson, a resident of Munson township.

Frank C. Swiger spent his boyhood days on the home place and began his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, wherein he mastered the common branches of learning. He afterward spent a part of two years in attendance at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and then returned home to give his undivided attention to the work of the farm. He thus rendered his father valuable assistance until he attained his majority, and after reaching the age of twenty-one years he began farming his father's place. This work he carried on for about five years prior to his marriage. That important event in his life was celebrated on the 13th of February, 1896, the lady of his choice being Miss Clara B. Souers,

of Grundy Center, Iowa, with whom he had become acquainted at school. She was born in Cornwall township, this county, and was a daughter of John and Margaret Souers. She, too, was given good educational privileges and was a student in the Collegiate Institute at the time her future husband was attending there. There are four children of this marriage: Eldon Frank, who was born November 13th, 1897; Gladys Irene, born September 27, 1900; Carl Russell, born October 26, 1901; and Clarence Wilbur, born January 28, 1905.

Soon after attaining his majority Frank C. Swiger purchased his first tract of land, his father assisting him somewhat. He became the owner of thirty acres, for which he paid sixty-seven dollars per acre. Since that time he has bought one hundred and fifty-five acres, for which he paid about eighty dollars per acre and which is now worth one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. Statistics show that there is no richer farm land in all the country than is included within the broad prairies of Illinois and Iowa, and Mr. Swiger is wise in retaining his residence here and giving his attention to general agricultural pursuits. Plowing, planting and harvesting largely occupy his time, and excellent results are obtained thereby.

In his political views Mr. Swiger is a republican. He does not seek nor desire political office but has served as township clerk for several years and for a long period has been school director. He believes in maintaining good schools and employing competent teachers and his influence is therefore on the side of progress in relation to the educational affairs of the community. That his life has been well spent is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

---

#### WILBUR F. SPENCER, M. D.

Holding to high standards in his professional service, Dr. Wilbur F. Spencer is well known as a leading and successful homeopathic physician and surgeon of Geneseo. He was born in Henry, Illinois, March 8, 1864, of the marriage of John A. and Mary E. (Vail) Spencer, natives of Vermont and Ohio, respectively. The Spencer family is of English lineage and was established in New England in early colonial days. The grandfather, Horace Spencer, was a native of Connecticut and devoted his life to the occupation of farming. He wedded Mary Adams and their son, John A. Spencer, was born in the Green Mountain state. When twelve years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, the family home being established at Henry, where he was reared to manhood, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He made farming his life work and throughout the entire time in which he tilled the fields lived upon the farm where the father had settled. For the past seven or eight years, however, he has made his home in Aurora, where he is now engaged in the milk business. He wedded Mary E. Vail, a native of Ohio and a daughter of John V. Vail, who was also born in the Buckeye state and was of Holland-Dutch descent. Mr. Vail married a Miss Banker, who died in early womanhood, leaving three children. Following her death he

married again and lived to the very venerable age of ninety-two years. His daughter, Mrs. Spencer, is a member of the Swedenborgian church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John A. Spencer were born four children: Wilbur F.; Della, the wife of Miletus Gaskel, of Huron, Indiana; Lucy, at home; and Harriet, the wife of Ralph T. Fulton, of Oakes, North Dakota.

Dr. Spencer remained upon the home farm near Henry, Illinois, until twenty-two years of age and supplemented his district-school training by a year's study in the high school of the town. Later he benefited by instruction in the Northwestern Normal at Geneseo, and, determining upon the practice of medicine as his life work, he began studying with that end in view and was graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic College in 1888. Immediately afterward he began practice at Cambridge, Illinois, where he remained for nearly three years, after which he returned to Geneseo and bought out the practice of his former preceptor, Dr. H. H. Chase. Here he has remained continuously since, and his understanding of the fundamental principles of the science of medicine and his ready adoption of modern scientific methods have made him well qualified for the onerous duties of the profession.

On the 18th of June, 1890, Mr. Spencer was united in marriage to Miss Miriam C. Hinman, who was born in Cambridge, Illinois. Her parents, Judge Julius and Mary E. Hinman, were natives of Ohio and became early settlers of Henry county, Illinois, arriving in 1851. Judge Hinman was a son of Zerah Hinman, who was of English descent. Born in Connecticut he located near Akron, Ohio, on leaving New England, and as a life work he followed the blacksmith's trade. He wedded Miriam Moses, and unto them were born three sons and a daughter, the daughter being burned to death when a young lady. The sons were: Lloyd, Julius and Rufus. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Spencer was Richard Westlake, who was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent. He was a farmer by occupation and an early settler of Henry county, Illinois, taking up his abode near Cambridge. Both he and his wife lived to be eighty years of age. They were the parents of nine children: Richard, Andrew, George, Samuel, Martha, Eliza, Mary E., Maggie and Hattie.

Judge Hinman, the father of Mrs. Spencer, was for many years a well known lawyer of Henry county and also served upon the bench. His connection with the bar of this district covered twenty years, and his ability places him prominently in the ranks of the leading attorneys of this part of the state. He was also prominent and influential in public affairs, and his efforts were effective forces in locating the county seat at Cambridge. He died in 1885 and is still survived by his widow. Their family numbered five children: Hubert, Eva, Albert, Ella and Miriam. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Spencer have been born two sons: Vernon W. and John Ralph.

The parents are both members of the Unitarian church and Dr. Spencer fraternally is connected with Stewart Lodge, No. 92, F. & A. M. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and in community affairs he takes a deep interest, his labors being especially effective in behalf of intellectual progress. The cause of public education finds in him a stalwart champion as manifest by his active work on the school board, and he has also been a member of the library board for fifteen years. He owns and occupies a beautiful residence which

he erected in 1901 and which is a favorite resort with the many friends of Dr. and Mrs. Spencer. In his professional relations Dr. Spencer is connected with the state and national homeopathic medical societies. He has made continuous progress in the field of his chosen labor, holds to a high standard of professional ethics and is deeply interested in everything which brings to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life.

---

### WILLIAM CLAYTON EWAN.

William Clayton Ewan is one of the younger members of the Kewanee bar, who has attained success that many an elder practitioner might envy. In January, 1909, he became connected with Charles E. Sturtz as a member of the firm of Sturtz & Ewan, and in the brief period which has since elapsed they have enjoyed a large and growing clientage. Mr. Ewan was born in Lewistown, Illinois, on the 12th of March, 1881, his parents being William I. and Catherine R. (Murchinson) Ewan, natives of Virginia and of South Carolina respectively. After coming to Illinois the father engaged in farming near Cuba.

William Clayton Ewan, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, acquired his early education in the public schools of this state and afterward continued his studies in the University of Illinois at Champaign, from which he was graduated with the class of 1907. He pursued a course in literature and arts and then entered the law department, qualifying for the practice of a profession which he is now making his life work. Following his graduation he located in Kewanee in October, 1907, at which time he became assistant states attorney in the office of Charles E. Sturtz and in January, 1909, was admitted to a partnership under the firm style of Sturtz & Ewan. He still acts as assistant states attorney and at the same time is building up a good private practice. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a popular young man, who has won many friends during his residence in Kewanee, where the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded him.

---

### CARL J. FORNANDER.

Carl J. Fornander, an enterprising and progressive farmer of Weller township, who has been engaged in various capacities in this community for a number of years, was born in Holdredge, Nebraska, on the 1st of December, 1884, a son of John P. and Matilda (Stevenson) Fornander. The father, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, came to this country in 1877 and is now living in Galva at the age of fifty-three years. His wife, who is the daughter of Gustave Stevenson, came here with her parents at an early date.

In the district schools of Polk county, Nebraska, Carl J. Fornander acquired his early education, and he also attended school in Galva for one year. After laying aside his text-books he worked for a year as farm hand and then was em-

ployed for a similar period in a factory at Galva. Later he became identified with railroad interests, being thus connected for two years, during the first as section man on the Rock Island Railroad and during the second in the same capacity on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road. For nearly two years he was employed by William Whitmore in the house-moving business, and then, in 1906, leased a farm of forty acres one mile north of Galva, upon which he resided for one year. During this period the greater portion of his time was spent in the occupation of teaming and threshing. He then leased another farm of fifty acres a half mile east of Galva, which he operated for one year, and in the spring of 1909 took up his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, three and a half miles south of Bishop Hill, where he intends to make his home for some years to come. It is located on section 34, Weller township, and is all under a high state of cultivation. It is all well improved and under his careful and wise management is proving an excellent investment.

Mr. Fornander's religious belief is indicated by his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church of Galva, while fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers of America at Galva. Politically he gives his support to the republican party, usually voting the straight ticket, but he is not an aspirant for public office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon the conduct of his private affairs. He is a young man of high principles whose good traits of mind and heart have won for him the respect of his fellowmen.

---

### ALMON HENDERSON LINN.

Almon Henderson Linn, who has been engaged in the practice of law at Cambridge since 1901, was born in Mercer county, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1872, his parents being Taylor and Elizabeth (Henderson) Linn, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. The paternal grandfather, John Linn, who was born in Pennsylvania and followed farming as a life work, died at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Campbell, was seventy-eight years old when called to her final rest. They reared a family of six children, namely: Priscilla, the deceased wife of John T. Lynn; Erilla, the wife of George Wright; Taylor Linn; Lucinda, the deceased wife of Isaac Heare; Sarah, the wife of Alfred Ripley; and Anner, the wife of N. M. Lynn. There are three families of Linns or Lynns represented in the marriages but they are not related to each other. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Thomas Henderson, a native of the Keystone state and a farmer by occupation. He and his wife became early settlers of Knox county, Illinois, where they died when past middle life. They had six children, as follows: Anne, the deceased wife of Samuel Junk; Hannah L., the widow of Hiram G. Shinn, of Alpha; Mary, the deceased wife of Samuel Rankin; Martha, the widow of Alexander Ritenhouse; Stewart; and Elizabeth, the first wife of Taylor Linn.

Taylor Linn, the father of Almon H. Linn, was a little lad of seven years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this state. The family home was established in Mercer county, and there he grew to manhood. General

agricultural pursuits have claimed his time and energies throughout his active business career. He has been twice married and his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Henderson, passed away in 1880, in the faith of the Congregational church. A few years later he wedded Miss Lizzie H. Junk, by whom he has a son, Harrison J. About 1888 Mr. Linn and his second wife took up their abode at Alpha, Henry county, where he was successfully engaged in the lumber business for about fifteen years. On the expiration of that period he put aside active business cares and has since been living retired save for the supervision which he gives to his several farms.

Almon Henderson Linn spent his youthful days on a farm in Knox county, Illinois, attending the district schools in the acquirement of an education. He was about fifteen years of age when he came with his parents to this county and subsequently pursued a course in the Alpha high school. He afterward attended Brown's Business College and then took up the study of law, being graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1899. The same year he was admitted to the bar and in 1901 located for practice at Cambridge, where he has remained to the present time, his ability in the line of his chosen profession having won him an extensive and enviable clientage.

On the 25th of June, 1901, Mr. Linn was united in marriage to Miss Leota Wilson, a native of Oxford township, Henry county, and a daughter of George W. and Mary A. (Kerr) Wilson, who were born in this state and are now residents of Alpha. Their children are six in number, namely: Mrs. Linn; Glencoe, the wife of Ralph Streeter; Pearl, the wife of Malta J. Neutzman; Guy; Dean; and Catharine. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Linn were Samuel J. and Mary (Wright) Wilson. Her maternal grandparents were Valentine and Catharine (Fierling) Kerr.

Politically Mr. Linn is a stalwart advocate of the republican party. He is now acting as deputy county coroner and is also serving his second term in the office of police magistrate. Fraternally he is identified with Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and the Improved Order of Red Men. In every relation of life he has been found as one true to his honest convictions, loyal in support of what he believes to be right. Moreover, he is widely recognized as a lawyer of broad knowledge, who prepares his cases with thoroughness and is strong in argument and logical in his deductions.

---

#### FREDERICK RICHARDS.

Frederick Richards, residing at No. 802 May street in Kewanee, is now the capable incumbent in the office of township collector and has discharged the duties devolving upon him in that connection since April, 1909. He was born in Toronto, Canada, on the 21st of November, 1877, his parents being William and Fanny (Chick) Richards, both natives of Somersetshire, England. In 1871, when eighteen years of age, the father crossed the Atlantic to America and took up his abode in Canada, while subsequently he removed to Michigan. In 1890 he came to Kewanee, Henry county, Illinois, where he has since been successfully engaged

in gardening, though previously he had devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. His wife, who left her native land when fourteen years of age, is also yet living and they are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community.

Frederick Richards attended the public schools of Michigan in pursuit of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. The year 1900 witnessed his arrival in Kewanee, this county, and here he secured a position in the rolling mill department of the Western Tube Company, remaining in the employ of that concern until business was suspended in the fall of 1907. He has mining interests in South Dakota, and has made various trips throughout the country, thus gaining that broad experience and culture which only travel can bring.

On the 24th of December, 1902, Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Anna Pollock, a daughter of David Pollock, of Kewanee. They now have four children, namely: Clarence Melburn, Hazel Irene, Violet May and Majory.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Richards has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and is an active worker in its local ranks. In April, 1909, he was elected to the office of township collector and has proven a faithful and efficient incumbent in the position. Fraternally he is identified with the Eagles and the Mystic Workers. He is a young man of strong character and sterling worth and well merits the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

---

#### DAVID SEYMOUR BROWN.

David Seymour Brown, who owns and cultivates the northwest quarter of section 5, Munson township, his farm being improved according to the most modern methods of agriculture, was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, February 26, 1862, and is a son of William T. and Mary (Neal) Brown. The parents came to Henry county when their son David was but two years of age and for a number of years afterward Mr. Brown cultivated a rented farm, while subsequently he lived for a time in Geneseo township. He afterward purchased eighty acres of land in Osco township, where he spent the remainder of his days. His entire life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and he was a man of industry and perseverance, whose success was attributable entirely to his own labors. In the family were two children, but the elder, Margaret, died at the age of two years.

David Seymour Brown is indebted to the public school system of the county for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. Through the periods of vacation he worked in the fields and after his school days were over he devoted his entire time and attention to the improvement of the home farm until about thirty years of age. He was then married, on the 28th of January, 1892, to Miss Lora Gilbert, a daughter of Nathaniel C. and Francelia (Amsden) Gilbert. Her father was born near Richmond, Ontario county, New York, while the mother's birth occurred near Rochester, Vermont. It was in the year 1856

that Mr. Gilbert came to Henry county, settling with a brother in Geneseo township. Mrs. Gilbert had come to this county during her early childhood days and made her home on what is known as the Amsden farm in Geneseo township. Here they became acquainted and were married in that township on the 9th of August, 1860. In the same year Mr. Gilbert broke the first furrow on land which he had purchased in Munson township and began the development of a farm. There was not a tree or twig on the place, but with characteristic energy he began to make improvements, set out trees, erect good buildings and carry on the work of general development, until the once wild land was converted into productive fields that annually brought forth good harvests. The family continued to reside upon that farm until 1893, when they established their home in Geneseo, where the death of Mr. Gilbert occurred July 26, 1908. In the family were three children: May, is now living in Geneseo; H. Mark, who married Marion Richey and lives at North Yakima, in the state of Washington; and Mrs. Brown.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born three children, but they lost their eldest, Ethel, at the age of seven years. The others are: Gilbert W., who was born on the home farm February 24, 1902, and Ronald Mark, born February 24, 1908. The parents hold membership in the Congregational church in Geneseo and are interested in its work. Mr. Brown also belongs to Geneseo Camp, No. 40, M. W. A. In his political views he is independent, caring not to ally himself with any party. His time and attention are largely given to his business affairs, which are carefully and successfully conducted. He is well known as a breeder of thoroughbred polled Durham cattle. He began to handle and breed high grade cattle when he took up the occupation of farming and since 1902 has handled registered stock. He has become well known in this connection and is one of the more prosperous cattle men of the district.

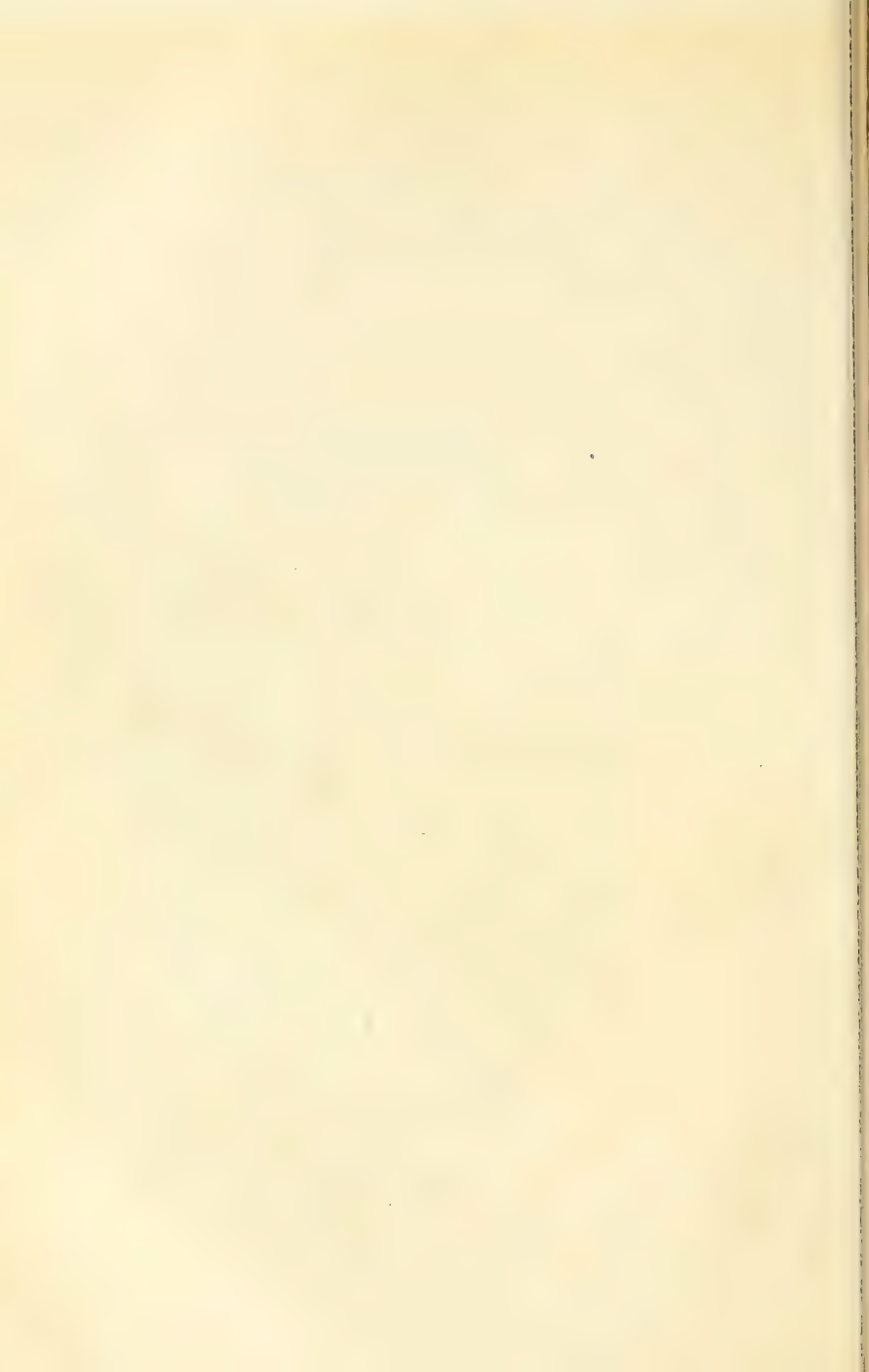
---

### GEORGE WASHINGTON WEST.

George Washington West, of Geneseo, is well known in Henry county as a prominent and prosperous farmer, cattle feeder and landowner. That his business judgment is sound and his enterprise of a practical and effective character is indicated in the success that he has achieved. He was born at Dryden, Tompkins county, New York, March 25, 1835, being one of the ten children of Gardner and Lavinia (Pease) West. The former was a son of John West, a native of England who came to America with two brothers, settling first in Rhode Island, where he followed the occupation of farming. Unto him and his wife were born three sons and four daughters: Gardner, William, Nathan, Polly, Percy, Flavilla and Lavinia. Of these the daughter Percy is still living at the age of one hundred and one years in Dryden, New York, and is the widow of George Hiles. In Dryden, also, lived Thaddeus Pease, the maternal grandfather of Mr. West. His parents were natives of England and were of Scotch-English descent. Thaddeus Pease was a cooper by trade and was well known locally for his splendid powers as an athlete. He was ninety-nine years



GEORGE W. WEST



of age at the time of his death while his wife also reached an advanced age. They had but two children, Lavinia and Lydia.

Gardner West, the father of G. W. West, was born in Rhode Island but removed to Dryden, New York, where he carried on general farming and dairying. His wife was also born in the east and both died at Dryden when about eighty years of age. They were the parents of ten children, two sons and eight daughters but only two are now living, the elder being Mrs. Lydia Space, the widow of Thomas Space. She makes her home in Dryden, New York, at the age of eighty-four years.

George W. West, the other surviving member of the family, was reared in Tompkins county, New York, on the home farm. He attended the old-time subscription schools and when twenty years of age sought the opportunities of the new but rapidly developing west. By rail he traveled to Beloit, Wisconsin, and thence rode a colt to Osco township, Henry county, Illinois. After reaching his destination he engaged in breaking prairie with a team, composed of one yoke of old oxen and a pair of young steers. Becoming identified with farming interests, he purchased eighty acres south of Geneseo and turned his attention to handling live stock. He afterward rented a farm belonging to his father-in-law, Major James M. Allan, which property was inherited by his daughter at the father's death. The corporation limits of Geneseo include twenty-six acres of this farm which at that time contained four hundred and twenty-five acres. Mr. and Mrs. West still reside on the old homestead which has now been their place of residence for thirty-six years and Mr. West has dealt quite extensively in stock, making a specialty of cattle. He has also successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits and his careful management of his business affairs and honorable dealing have been the salient features in his financial progress.

On the 6th of June, 1865, Mr. West wedded Miss Mary Amelia Allan, who was born in Geneseo, July 17, 1842, and is a representative of one of the oldest families of this city. Her parents were Major James M. and Susanna (Stewart) Allan, natives of Tennessee and New York, respectively. They came to Geneseo when it was but a tiny village and here lived for many years, Major Allan occupying a prominent place in the life of the community. He was a son of John Allan, a native of England, who became an early settler of Tennessee. He married Nancy Hodge, whose father was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. West were Robert R. and Clarissa (Dresser) Stewart. Unto Mr. and Mrs. West have been born three sons. James Allan, who is a postal clerk, married Effie Cinnamon and they have had two sons: Allan Cinnamon and Harold Thomas. George Gardner, the second of the family, is conducting a livery business in Chicago. John Edward, the youngest, is a dentist of Geneseo. He married Minerva Benedict and they have three children: Stewart Benedict, Evelyn and Catharine Anita.

Mr. and Mrs. West are members of the Congregational church and he is also allied with the Masonic fraternity. His life exemplifies the teachings of both organizations and he is in thorough sympathy with every movement and measure for the uplifting of the race and the advancement of civilization. While he holds to high ideals he works for their achievement along practical

lines. Politically he is a republican and though he has no ambition for office he has done good work as a member of the board of education, acting as chairman of the finance committee of the board at the time when the Geneseo high school building was erected. Energetic, prompt and notably reliable, he is classed with the representative business men of Henry county and with Geneseo's citizens whose labors in its behalf have been far-reaching and beneficial. He is now one of the oldest residents of the town in years of the continuous connection therewith and his name is a prominent one on the roll of pioneer settlers.

---

### WILLIAM RUXTON.

William Ruxton, a successful and enterprising agriculturist residing on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 34, Geneseo township, was born in Arbroath, Scotland, on the 17th of February, 1839, his parents being William and Mary (Hill) Ruxton. The father, a weaver by trade, followed that occupation during the period of his residence in Arbroath. Subsequent to the death of his wife, however, he brought his family to the new world, locating in Henry county, Illinois, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. His remains were interred in the old Geneseo cemetery. Unto him and his wife had been born eight sons, the record of whom is as follows: John, who is a machinist of Stanberry, Missouri; William, of this review; Jonathan, a retired engineer living in Chicago; Alexander, a resident of Ludlow, Massachusetts; Robert, an agriculturist of Hardin county, Iowa; Adam, who is engaged in farming in Story county, Iowa; James, living in Chicago, who is an engineer on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; and Allen, who is likewise an engineer of Chicago.

William Ruxton received but a limited education in the schools of his native land, for when eleven years of age he was bound out to learn the trade of a shoemaker, his term of apprenticeship covering five years. The first year he received a remuneration of two shillings or fifty cents per week and each year thereafter his wages were doubled. When his term of indenture had expired he remained with his employer as a journeyman for several years or until the time of his emigration to the United States. Many favorable reports had reached him concerning the opportunities and advantages of the new world and he had long cherished the plan of one day establishing his home on this side of the Atlantic. After landing in this country he made his way at once to Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, where he secured employment as a farm hand during the summer months, while in the winter seasons he worked at his trade. At the end of three years, desiring that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he rented a tract of land and was thus successfully connected with agricultural pursuits for a long period. He rented the farm where he now resides on section 34, Geneseo township, for about fifteen years, at the end of which time he purchased the property and has since devoted his energies to its further cultivation and improvement. In addition to his home farm, which is a rich and productive tract of land comprising one hundred and sixty acres, he also owns thirty acres in Munson town-

ship and is widely recognized as a most prosperous, energetic and progressive citizen of the community. His property is the visible evidence of his life of thrift, industry and careful management, and his record proves what may be accomplished by one who has laudable ambition and determination to persevere in the course marked out.

Just prior to his emigration to the United States Mr. Ruxton had wedded Miss Mary Ann Bennett, and by this union there were born six children, namely: Robert, who is married and lives in Munson township; Albert and Henry, who are also married and make their home in Munson township; Nellie J., who passed away at the age of eight years; Agnes, the wife of Howard Hutchinson, of Munson township; and Frank, who is now on the home farm with his father. In 1904 Mr. Ruxton was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 3d of November of that year, her remains being interred in Oakwood cemetery.

Where state and national questions are involved Mr. Ruxton supports the men and measures of the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He has capably served as a school director for many years but is not an office seeker, preferring to give his undivided attention to his private interests. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward.

---

### ROY THEODORE FERGUSON.

Roy Theodore Ferguson is one of the most enterprising and progressive young men of Western township, being extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was born on the home farm in Western township, December 29, 1876, a son of George W. and Inez E. (Hitchcock) Ferguson, both of whom still survive. The son was reared on the home farm and after mastering the branches of learning taught in the country schools, entered the Collegiate Institute at Geneseo, from which he was graduated with the class of 1897. He then pursued a business course in Brown's Business College, at Galesburg, Illinois. Starting out in life well equipped for its duties and responsibilities, he has for the past few years managed his father's farm of four hundred acres in Western township, while in 1907 he purchased eighty acres on section 11, paying for the same one hundred dollars per acre. He also has this tract under cultivation. In addition to general farming he raises and feeds stock very extensively, shipping to the city markets, where his fine grades of stock demand high prices. In addition to his land in Western township, he also owns one hundred and sixty acres in Grand Forks, North Dakota, which is under cultivation. This he bought in 1902, paying for it twenty dollars per acre, and in 1908 he bought one hundred and sixty acres in southern Alberta, Canada. Few men of his years have attained to such a degree of success as has Mr. Ferguson, but he is a man of push and energy and this is the secret of his prosperity.

Mr. Ferguson was married March 2, 1904, to Miss Ella Bailey, a daughter of James and Margaret (Warnock) Bailey, and a resident of Rural township, Rock Island county, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey were both natives of County Down, Ireland, but of Scotch ancestry. They came with their respective parents to America at an early day, the father coming here in 1849, when twenty years of age, while the mother arrived the previous year when a little maiden of seven years. The two families were acquainted in the old country and settled near each other in Illinois. They reared a family of eight children and Mrs. Ferguson is next to the youngest in order of birth. The mother is still living and yet makes her home in Rock Island county, but the father is deceased. By her marriage Mrs. Ferguson has become the mother of a little daughter, Margaret Inez.

Mr. Ferguson gives his support to the republican party but finds little time for active participation in the party's public affairs. He has, however, served as school director. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist church at Orion. They are most genial and cordial young people, having a wide circle of friends in the community in which they reside and a hearty welcome is extended to all who enter their hospitable home.

---

#### WALTER J. STAHL.

Walter J. Stahl finds his business in stock raising a profitable one, for he applies himself diligently and energetically to the tasks at hand and his labors are rewarded with a substantial financial return. His home is on section 34, where he has eighty acres of good land, and on section 35, Geneseo township, he has a ninety-acre tract. He was born on the farm which is still his place of residence but in a house that stood on the east side of the road. His parents were Charles F. and Louise (Rusberg) Stahl. The father was born in Holstein, Germany, which was also the birthplace of the mother, and both were reared there and were married ere their emigration to the new world. The father had been employed as a farm hand in his native country. Soon after his marriage he brought his bride to the United States with the expectation of locating at Davenport, Iowa, but they were influenced by a brother of Mr. Stahl to locate in Henry county, where soon afterward Charles F. Stahl secured employment as a hod carrier. The parents were so poor at that time that they used the trunk for a table and the other furnishings in their little home were very meager. They had enough to buy a stove but little else, yet with unflinching courage and stout hearts they faced the difficulties and hardships of the situation and little by little were able to save from Mr. Stahl's earnings until they felt that the amount was sufficient to enable them to establish their home upon a rented farm. Mr. Stahl then began the cultivation of the fields upon the farm which he afterward purchased and which is now a part of the present homestead. He added to it until it comprised one hundred and seventy acres—the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift. Diligent and persistent and ever honorable in his business affairs he deserved and enjoyed the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He died January 19, 1909, at the age of seventy-nine years,

while his wife passed away in August, 1896. There were six children in the family: Henry J., who is now living in Webster City, Iowa; Lewis, who married and died at High View, Iowa, leaving a widow and one child; Frank, who makes his home near High View, in Webster county, Iowa; Walter J., our subject; Emma, who married Henry Yungclas and died near High View, leaving one daughter; and Charles H., who is living in Osceola, Iowa.

Walter J. Stahl was afforded the educational advantages offered by the district school near the old home and served his father until twenty-one years of age without compensation. Later his father paid him wages for his services and he continued to work upon the old homestead until his marriage. It was on the 29th of December, 1887, that he wedded Miss Ida Jann, of Geneseo, who was born on a farm in West Prussia. Her father died in Germany when she was three years old and her mother afterward became the wife of John Schiefelbein. Mrs. Stahl was ten years of age when her mother and stepfather came to the United States. They established their home in Henry county and she attended the country schools and began to work out while quite young. For some years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stahl worked and kept house for William Walker, a worthy bachelor of Munson township, but they were ambitious to own a home of their own and, eventually, purchased ninety-two acres of land in Geneseo township, which they afterward traded to his father as part payment for the old homestead, to which place they then removed, making for the father a home in his old age. The farm is now a valuable tract of land of one hundred and seventy acres, supplied with modern improvements and equipments, the fields being devoted to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, while in the pastures and feed lots are seen good grades of stock.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stahl have been born eleven children: Lillian, who was graduated from the high school of Geneseo with the class of 1908 and is now a teacher in the home school; Nellie, who did two years' work in the high school; George; Minnie, who spent one year as a student in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute; Alfred; Herbert; Earl; Frank, who died in infancy; Myrtle; Meta; and one who died in infancy. The parents attend the Congregational church where the four older children hold membership. Mr. Stahl was reared to habits of industry and economy. His father realized that it was well to make his children learn the value of money and the power of diligence and there were few leisure moments in the youthful days of Walter J. Stahl. However, he came to manhood well equipped for the practical and responsible duties of life and his worth is shown in the success which he has achieved, making him the owner of an excellent farm property in Geneseo township.

---

#### HON. JOSEPH H. MULLIGAN.

Hon. Joseph H. Mulligan, well known in Kewanee, where he has served almost continuously as station agent since November, 1885, save for the period of his service in the state legislature, was born in Union county, Kentucky, September 8, 1855. He was less than a year old when his parents removed to Monmouth,

Illinois, while subsequently they became residents of what was then known as "Young America," but is now the city of Kirkwood. There Joseph H. Mulligan pursued his education and afterward went to Biggsville, Illinois, in 1872. His youthful days were given to farm work through the periods of vacation and in 1869 he became connected with railroad interests as track repairer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Subsequently he was promoted to the position of baggageman and switchman and eventually became telegraph operator and station agent. His rise has come to him in recognition of his capability and merit, and he is today regarded as one of the oldest, most trustworthy and therefore one of the most valued representatives of the railroad company. He was acting as station agent at Biggsville when he left that place in 1884 and returned to Kirkwood, where he also acted as station agent. In November, 1885, however, he was transferred to Kewanee and has remained here as station agent throughout the entire period that has since elapsed save for the time of his service as a member of the state legislature.

In politics Mr. Mulligan is an active democrat, doing everything in his power legitimately to promote the interests of his party and secure its success. He received reward for his effective and earnest labor in its behalf in his election to the state legislature in 1892 and in 1894 was reelected, serving also during a call session of 1895. While connected with the house he gave careful consideration to each question that came up for settlement and threw the weight of his influence on the side of every measure and movement which he deemed would benefit the commonwealth at large. He has served as the chairman of the democratic city and county central committees and his opinions carry weight in the councils of his party.

In 1880 Mr. Mulligan was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Dixon, of Biggsville, and they have three sons: J. Frank, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Kewanee; Charles E., a lawyer mentioned elsewhere in this volume; and William W., who is with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company at Kewanee. Mr. Mulligan and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Tribunes, the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, being quite active in the last named. He is also a member of the Commercial Club of Kewanee and is not only interested in its social features but also in the active work of the organization for the promotion of the city's interests.

---

#### BENJAMIN I. STAFFORD.

Benjamin I. Stafford, who for a considerable period was closely associated with the agricultural interests of Henry county, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, December 6, 1823. His parents were Palmer and Betsey (Paddock) Stafford, who were also natives of the Green Mountain state, where the father followed general farming and also conducted a dairy. He died in Vermont at the age of about sixty-three years, while his wife, who survived him for twenty years, passed away in 1863. They were the parents of twelve children, but

only one is now living, Jay Stafford, the youngest, who resides at South Well-  
ingford, Vermont.

Benjamin I. Stafford was reared on a Vermont farm and there pursued his education. Some years after his marriage he took up his abode in Essex county, New York, where he lived for seven years, after which he continued his westward journey, reaching Henry county, Illinois, in 1859. Settling in Munson township, he continued there for three years, after which he removed to Geneseo. Later he took up his abode in Colona township, where he resided upon a farm, owning a section of land there. His fields were highly cultivated according to the most approved methods and the energy which he displayed in the development of his place and the keen discernment which he showed in the management of his affairs brought him substantial success as the years went by.

It was on the 4th of March, 1844, that Mr. Stafford was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia U. Holden, a daughter of Jonas and Olive M. (Lee) Holden. Mrs. Stafford, who was born at Crown Point, Essex county, New York, January 25, 1825, is now eighty-four years of age. Her grandfather, Jonas Holden, was born in Vermont and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, loyally defending the interests of the colonies. He lived to a ripe old age and his wife, Mrs. Sarah (Reed) Holden, was ninety-nine years and eight months of age at the time of her death. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Stafford was Richard Lee, a native of Rhode Island, who became a Baptist minister. He also worked in brass, making all kinds of brass utensils, and Mrs. Stafford has in her possession a dipper which he manufactured and which is well preserved. He reached an advanced age, but his wife, Mrs. Susie (Brown) Lee, died when comparatively young.

Jonas Holden, the father of Mrs. Stafford, was a native of Vermont and married Olive M. Lee, who was born in Rhode Island. On leaving New England they became residents of Essex county, New York, where Mr. Holden erected a large flour mill, and at one time in his life he was quite wealthy. He died in Dickinson, New York, about 1854 at the age of sixty-three years, while his wife long survived him and died in Geneseo at the home of her daughter. Mrs. Stafford, in August, 1894, at the age of ninety-two years and six months. Her memory remained bright and clear to the last, and death came not from illness but from old age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Holden there were born thirteen children, of whom five sons and six daughters all lived to adult age, but the sons are now deceased. Five daughters are living, namely: Mrs. Cornelia Stafford; Lucinda, who is the widow of Harley Collins, of Des Moines, Iowa; Harriet, who is living in Munson township; Patty, the wife of John Rothenbutcher, of Reno, Nevada; and Emily, the wife of Franklin Baum, of Moline, Illinois.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stafford was blessed with three children. Palmer, the eldest, wedded Marian Gilbert and lives in Geneseo. They have two living children—Betsey and Clinton. Joseph I., the second son, died in 1882. He had married Iola Cook and they had three daughters—Cornelia, Lucy and Lovina. Jonas H. married Ella Frances, and they reside in Geneseo with their three children: Joseph, Ethel and Bertha.

Mr. Stafford was a man of influence in his community, and his efforts were an essential factor in the growth and progress of the town. He held various

township offices and was supervisor for many years. He died on the old homestead in Colona township, January 2, 1886, at the age of sixty-three years and his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, not only to his immediate family, but to many friends who had learned to know and esteem him. His widow survives at a venerable age and is one of the most highly respected ladies of the county.

---

### STEPHEN TYLER HUME, M.D.

In the year 1845 Stephen Tyler Hume became a resident of Geneseo and with the exception of two brief periods continued to make his home in the city until his death. During the interim he was for many years an active practitioner of medicine and afterward a prominent factor in the banking interests of the city, and throughout the entire time he was a progressive citizen whose public spirit prompted his active cooperation in those movements which have given strength and character to the community. In the years of his early residence here Geneseo was a collection of small houses, many of them built of logs, and the surrounding country was largely undeveloped. He lived to witness its transformation into one of the thickly settled districts of the state, rich in its natural resources and in its acquired business activity and interests.

Dr. Hume was born in Riga, Monroe county, New York, May 3, 1818, and passed away on the 21st of March, 1908, lacking but forty-six days of reaching the ninetieth anniversary of his birth. The Hume family traces its ancestry back in this country to Nicholas Hume, of Boston, who was born in 1761, while the ancestry goes back to 1010, when the family flourished in Scotland. Moses Hume, the father of Dr. Hume, was a native of Massachusetts and was the son of Stephen Hume, who was also born in the old Bay state, when it was still numbered among the colonial possessions of Great Britain. Serving as a soldier of the Revolutionary war, he thus aided in achieving American independence and his son, Moses Hume, who served in the war of 1812, wedded Sarah Stewart, who was also a native of Massachusetts and traced her lineage back to the royalty of Scotland. To provide for his family Moses Hume followed carpentering and contracting. At the age of twenty-two years he removed to New York and made his home at Riga until 1854, when he became a resident of Hudson, Michigan, where he died in 1864 at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife survived him until 1868 and was eighty-four years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered eight children, all of whom reached adult age and one son, George, the youngest, died while serving in the Civil war. The others were: Alonzo S., Mrs. Sarah Moore, Henry L., Roderick R., Stephen T., Cutler E. and Mrs. Anna L. Dresser.

Dr. Hume was the last survivor among the family of six brothers and two sisters. He was born and reared on a farm, the outdoor life developing a rugged and vigorous manhood. He supplemented his common-school education by an academic course preparatory to taking up the study of medicine and he made his way through medical college largely by working on the farm in the sum-



DR. STEPHEN T. HUME



mer and teaching district school in the winter seasons, thereby acquiring the money sufficient to meet the expenses of a college course. At length he was graduated from Berkshire Medical College with the class of 1844 and in the following year he came to the middle west, his objective point being Janesville, Wisconsin. However, while en route he stopped to visit relatives in Geneseo, Illinois, and finding but one physician here, Dr. Pomeroy, he decided to remain and was soon accorded a large and growing patronage. As the country was then but sparsely settled his professional duties forced him to take long rides all over this and adjacent counties as he traveled over trackless prairies to the homes of the early settlers. No night was ever too dark, no road too long or heat or cold too intense to prevent him from responding to the call of one who needed his medical aid, and he is yet remembered as the loved family physician in many a frontier household.

On the 18th of March, 1846, Dr. Hume was united in marriage to Miss Permelia T. Stewart, the wedding being celebrated in the old log hotel which was conducted by her father, R. R. Stewart, where the Swedish Lutheran church now stands. She was born in Brockport, New York, June 7, 1822. Her parents were well known and prominent residents of that place and in 1836 assisted in the organization of the Congregational church at Bergen, New York. On the following day, in company with four other families, they set out for Illinois, making the trip in prairie schooners. Two months were required to complete the journey but at length Elisha and Reuben Cone, Cromwell K. Bartlett, Culver Bartlett and R. R. Stewart, with their respective families, reached Princeton, Illinois, where they remained until a house could be erected at Geneseo. The first house was built where the Collegiate Institute now stands and the first hotel was built by R. R. Stewart. It was in that primitive hostelry that Mrs. Hume spent her girlhood days and she and her sisters, Mrs. Susanna Allan and Mrs. Narcissa Wells, were the first school teachers of Henry county. Dr. and Mrs. Hume traveled life's journey happily together for more than fifty-one years and were then separated by the death of the wife on the 4th of December, 1897. They were the parents of six children, but all died in infancy with the exception of Mrs. Ella Taylor, who now lives in the old home in Geneseo, and with her daughter, Mrs. J. H. White and her family, are the only descendants of Dr. Hume.

With the exception of six months spent in Sharon and nine years in the '50s in Moline, Dr. Hume remained continuously in Geneseo from 1845 until his demise. The earlier years of his residence here were devoted to the practice of medicine, in which he was very successful, keeping in touch with the advance of the profession. Defective eyesight, however, caused him to retire from the profession nearly thirty years ago and from that time until his death he was more or less closely identified with the management of the First National Bank. He was the last survivor of its original stockholders and directors as organized in 1864, and he succeeded James McBroom as president at the latter's death, serving in that position from 1895 until he, too, passed away. His memory was keen and retentive, and, always active in mind and body, he retained a deep interest in everything about him to the end of his days. Unlike many old people, he did not live largely in the past but was interested in all

that indicated the progress of the times. In his demise Geneseo sustained the loss of a great and good citizen, for he was a man of character and genuine worth. He was known as the "dignified and venerable man" and therefore was honored and loved for his many good qualities of head and heart. His long residence here and his professional and business service made him most widely known and his acquaintance with and knowledge of the old settlers and of events which shaped the history of the county was perhaps greater than that of any other man. Mrs. Hume's health was never good after an accident which she sustained, causing an injury to her spine. This was occasioned by the overturning of a wagon while on a trip to Galesburg many years ago. She was made an invalid and for many years suffered greatly but through it all was patient, gentle and sweet tempered, bearing her sufferings with Christian fortitude until called to the home beyond, December 4, 1897, when seventy-five years of age. Thus have gone from the community two of Geneseo's most esteemed and highly respected citizens, active in the interests of the community from the time of the establishment of the colony that founded the city. Their lives were at all times an exemplification of Christian belief and faith and constituted an example well worthy of emulation. They were filled with many good deeds of kindness and acts of charity—those little daily ministrations which mean so much to the recipient and awaken unflinching love and gratitude.

---

#### JAMES ALBERT BRADLEY.

Among the young men who are leaving their impress upon the business development and material progress of Geneseo is numbered James Albert Bradley, the assistant cashier of the Farmers National Bank. He was born in this city September 16, 1871, and is a son of Michael and Lila J. (Cassidy) Bradley, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Indiana. The paternal grandfather spent his entire life in the Emerald isle, but his widow afterward came to America and was residing in Pennsylvania at the time of her demise. Michael Bradley accompanied his mother to the new world during his early boyhood, and for a few years they remained at Blairsville, Pennsylvania, the son thus spending his youthful days in a region where the development of the coal fields constituted the most important industry. In 1859 he came to Illinois and took charge of the coal mines at Minersville where he remained until his removal to Geneseo. At that time he turned his attention to the grocery business, opening a store which he conducted continuously until April, 1908, when he retired to private life. In 1896 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. She was a faithful member of the Catholic church, and Mr. Bradley is also connected with the same religious organization. In their family were six children, all sons, but only three are now living: Francis M., James A. and Virgil C.

James A. Bradley has spent his entire life in Geneseo, his youth being passed in the usual manner of village lads, who divide their time between the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. After mastering the branches of learning taught in the public schools here he had the benefit of instruction in

the Northwestern Normal, and later he engaged in teaching school for nearly five years, his educational work proving a valuable factor in the schools of the locality. On the expiration of that period he accepted a position in the Farmers National Bank as bookkeeper and was subsequently promoted to assistant cashier, in which capacity he is now serving.

On the 1st of November, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bradley and Miss Anna Louise Stewart, a native of Geneseo and a daughter of John P. and Helen L. (Morton) Stewart. Her father was a native of New York and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume in connection with the sketch of his son, William M. Stewart. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bradley has been born a daughter, Helen Lida. Mr. Bradley belongs to the Catholic church, and his wife is a member of the Congregational church. He also affiliates with the Knights of Columbus, and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He has served as town clerk and school treasurer and is loyal to the trust reposed in him, whether in public office or in his bank connections. He is well known in the city where he has always made his home, and his social qualities render him popular, while his business ability has made him a leading factor in financial circles.

---

### THOMAS C. WILLIAMS.

Thomas C. Williams, deceased, was for many years identified with the farming interests of this county and was a veteran of the Civil war. Other features in his life work are equally creditable, and altogether his was an honorable record which has caused his memory to be enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him. He was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, August 14, 1836, his parents being James C. and Mary (Lindsey) Williams, both of whom were natives of the Blue Grass state. The father was a farmer by occupation and in 1848 removed from Kentucky to Clayton, Illinois, where he resided until his death, which occurred when he was well advanced in years. His wife had passed away some years previous. They were the parents of nine children, two sons and seven daughters, all of whom are now deceased, with the exception of the eldest daughter, Mrs. M. J. Meats, of Clayton, Illinois.

Thomas C. Williams was reared in Clayton on the old home farm, his youthful days being passed in a manner similar to that of most farm boys who faced the necessity of assisting in the work of the fields, and at the same time had the opportunity of acquiring a fair English education in the public schools. He attended the district schools of Adams county, living at home until he attained his majority, when he began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand by the month. He was thus employed for about a year or two, after which he was married. It was on the 16th of November, 1859, that he was joined in wedlock to Miss Margaret A. Lafferty, a daughter of James and Anna (Boyle) Lafferty. Mrs. Williams was born in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, December 1, 1841. Her grandfather in the paternal line was John Lafferty, likewise a native of the Keystone state, where he spent his entire life. He married Martha McElmoyle, and they had four children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs.

Williams was Charles Boyle, a native of Scotland, who for many years made his home in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, where he devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits. He married Margaret Pomeroy, both continuing residents of Pennsylvania until called to the home beyond. Their daughter, Anna, became the wife of James Lafferty, and they were parents of Mrs. Williams. Both were natives of Pennsylvania and, coming to Illinois in the middle of the nineteenth century, settled in Adams county in 1851. There the father died at the age of fifty-one years, while the mother reached the age of seventy-two years. In their family were nine children, of whom three are now living: Margaret Ann; Amanda M., the wife of Andrew B. Lafferty, of Alma, Nebraska; and James C. Lafferty, of Danbury, Nebraska.

The eldest of the surviving members of the family is Mrs. Williams who, as stated, gave her hand in marriage to our subject in 1859. They had been married but three years when he left his young wife in order to aid his country in her hour of peril. On the 14th of August, 1862, he joined the army as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for a little more than three years, holding the rank of sergeant. He was once slightly wounded and on many other occasions was a target for the enemy's bullets, for he was frequently in the thickest of the fight. He participated in the battle of Franklin and of Shreveport, was with Major A. J. Smith on a trip to the Yellow Bayou and took part in the battles of Memphis and Baton Rouge. When the war was over he returned to his home in Adams county and there engaged in farming.

It was after the war that Mr. and Mrs. Williams received from her father the gift of a farm of one hundred acres. In 1873 they became residents of Henry county, settling in Orion, where Mr. Williams conducted a farming implement business until 1886. In that year he was elected sheriff and removed to Cambridge. He had previously served as deputy sheriff for twelve years, and he filled the office of sheriff for four years. At the close of his term he became ill and was sick for a long time. He had made a competent officer, being faithful and zealous in the discharge of his duties, so that his record was one which gained for him high commendation.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams were born four children: Ida B., J. I. Delbert, Charles D. and Lulie V. The eldest, Ida B., married George M. Baugh, and they reside with Mrs. Williams. They had ten children, as follows: Patience K.; L. Max; Anna Pearl; Clelland R.; Charles M.; Juanita Fern; Forrest Claire; Benjamin Burdette; Marjorie; and Otallie; of whom Charles M. died in 1905. J. I. Delbert, the next in order of birth, wedded Gertrude Nowers, by whom he has one daughter, Helen Lucile. They now make their home in Cambridge. Charles D., who married Mrs. Louisa Ryan, resides in Chicago; while Lulie V., the youngest, passed away December 27, 1890, when seventeen years of age.

The death of the husband and father occurred August 30, 1896, when he was sixty years of age. He belonged to the Modern Woodman Camp, was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and also maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army post. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he was recognized

as one of the strong workers in its ranks in this part of the state. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belongs. He left to his family the priceless heritage of a good name, for his record was at all times honorable and upright. Mrs. Williams still survives and makes her home in Cambridge, where she has an extensive circle of warm friends.

---

### WILLIAM McMEEKIN.

William McMeekin, the editor and publisher of the Galva Standard, was born in Henry county, Illinois, on the 13th of November, 1858, his parents being William and Agnes (Reed) McMeekin, both of whom were born in the vicinity of Belfast, Ireland. The father was a fisherman and shipbuilder in his native land and for some time was also a sailor. He first came to the United States in 1846 but subsequently returned to Ireland and in 1854 once more crossed the Atlantic to America, taking up his abode on Mill Creek, near Milan, in Rock Island county, Illinois, where he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. Subsequently he removed to Rural township and in 1858 came to Henry county and purchased a farm of eighty acres near Orion in Western township, on which he still resides with his wife. He has now made his home on that place for more than a half century and is well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as a most substantial and worthy citizen. His political allegiance is unfalteringly given to the republican party, and during the Civil war he was a member of the Union League. Unto him and his wife were born nine children, seven sons and two daughters, as follows: James R.; Mary, the wife of W. T. McWhinney; William, of this review; Frank; John; Robert C.; Hugh H.; and Alexander and Alida, who are at home.

William McMeekin was reared on his father's farm in this county and obtained his preliminary education in the district schools, while later he pursued his studies at Orion and Coal Valley, Illinois, and Iowa City, Iowa, being graduated from the academy at the last named place in June, 1881. He afterward entered the State University at Iowa City but left the institution in his sophomore year and took up the profession of teaching. He taught school at Sunnyhill, this county, for almost four years and then came to Galva and began the study of law in the office of Thomas E. Milchrist. When he had about completed the course he once more became identified with educational interests as an instructor and was principal of the south side school from 1887 until 1889. On the 1st of July, 1889, he purchased an interest in the Galva Standard and during the following ten years published the paper in partnership with James H. Boyd under the firm style of Boyd & McMeekin. In 1899 he was appointed to the position of postmaster at Galva and shortly afterward bought Mr. Boyd's interest in the Standard, of which he has since been the sole proprietor. It is a weekly republican newspaper and has a large subscription list, as well as good advertising patronage. In addition to his journalistic interests Mr. McMeekin also does general job printing and likewise is an extensive dealer in real estate. A man

of sound judgment, keen discrimination and excellent business ability, he has won a gratifying measure of success in his various undertakings and is widely recognized as a most prosperous, progressive and respected resident of his native county.

On the 27th of June, 1889, Mr. McMeekin was united in marriage to Miss Clara C. Bates, whose birth occurred in Galva on the 30th of September, 1861, her parents being John and Julia A. (Sipes) Bates, natives of Pennsylvania. Of the eight children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Bates, five still survive, namely: Jennie, the widow of Samuel Willis, of Mapleton, Iowa; George F., a resident of Crosby, Texas; Mrs. J. M. Wick and William H., both living in Galesburg; and Mrs. McMeekin. Another son of the family, Frank, died when about seventeen years of age from the effects of a disease contracted while he was serving as a soldier in the Civil war.

In his political views Mr. McMeekin is a stalwart republican and, as before stated, was appointed to the postmastership of Galva in 1899. He held the office until 1907 and, with the assistance of his estimable wife, capably discharged the duties devolving upon him in this connection. His wife also assists him in the printing and newspaper office and has proved a most valuable helpmate in many ways. They are both consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, exemplifying its teachings in their daily lives. Fraternally Mr. McMeekin is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His good qualities, and they are many, have strongly endeared him to those with whom he has been associated and wherever he is known he is popular with a large circle of friends.

---

#### GEORGE W. DUSTIN.

On the roll of Henry county's honored pioneers appears the name of George W. Dustin, who arrived in Wethersfield in 1855, coming to Illinois from Washington county, Ohio, where he was born on the 29th of January, 1831. Thinking to find better opportunities in this section of the country he made his way toward the Mississippi and on reaching Wethersfield began work at whatever he could get to do. It was a sparsely settled region, only a few homes having been established on the prairie, while the work of civilization and development seemed scarcely begun. As there were no railroads in the district he drove stage and took the first mail to the Kewanee postoffice. He afterward entered the employ of a nursery company, devoting his attention largely to the sale of hedge fences, which at that time were coming into popularity as a means of protection against the winds as well as a division for the fields. Later he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for the Haxtun Steam Heater Company, out of which enterprise has grown the Kewanee branch of the National Tube Works. His life was a busy and useful one, characterized by the faithful performance of every duty that devolved upon him and in his business record he made that steady progress which results from energy, close application and intelligence.

In the ancestral history of Mr. Dustin there appears a most interesting and fascinating chapter—the story of his great-grandmother, Hannah Dustin, the

wife of Thomas Dustin. It was in April, 1697, that the Indians went upon the warpath and captured Mrs. Dustin and her eight children. They dashed the brains of her infant out against a tree and took the mother and the nurse into the wilderness, the father having escaped with seven children. Mrs. Dustin with heroic purpose planned their escape. She, therefore, waited her opportunity and succeeded in killing all but two of her captors, after which she made her way back to her old home. The family is one of the oldest of New England, having been there established in early colonial days.

It was in 1859 that George W. Dustin was united in marriage to Miss Maria D. Jackson, who arrived in Wethersfield, October 10, 1840, having made the journey by team from Ohio in company with her parents. Her mother died in 1841 at the age of twenty-four years and her's was the second burial in Wethersfield. The father long survived, passing away in 1907 at the very venerable age of ninety-one years. Mrs. George W. Dustin has six living children and has lost four. Those who still survive are: John Francis, a physician and ranch owner in South Dakota; George Lewis, a member of a government life saving crew in Michigan; Albert M., who is with the St. Louis & Iron Mountain Railway in Arkansas; Charles M., who is connected with a newspaper in British Columbia; Mitchell J., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, who is with the Pennsylvania Railway Company, as Y. M. C. A. secretary for the railroad; and Forest T., who is manager and salesman for Selz, Schwab Shoe Company of Chicago.

Mr. Dustin was a loyal adherent of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also equally faithful in his allegiance to Masonry, which is based upon the brotherhood of mankind and inculcates among its members the principles and practices of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. He was a man of genial, social nature, which made him popular as a traveling salesman and wherever he was known, and in Kewanee he had a circle of friends coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance. His death occurred in April, 1881. Mrs. Dustin still survives and makes her home in Kewanee. She is a member of the First Baptist church and for over fifty years has lived a consistent Christian life as a representative of that organization.

---

#### WARREN T. HEAPS, M. D.

Although one of the younger members of the medical fraternity in Kewanee, the success of Dr. Warren T. Heaps is such as many an older physician might well envy, and prompted by laudable ambition and manifesting conscientious effort in his professional services, his progress with the years to come is assured. He was born in Annawan, Illinois, January 11, 1879, and is the son of I. G. Heaps, who is mentioned on another page of this volume. After mastering the elementary branches of learning Dr. Heaps continued his studies in the high school of Kewanee and thus laid a good foundation upon which to build the superstructure of professional learning as he entered upon preparation for the practice of medicine. His professional course was pursued in the medical department of the St. Louis University, from which he was grad-

uated in 1906, and he afterward spent a year in St. Mary's Institute at St. Louis, in the capacity of assistant surgeon. This brought him the practical experience that well qualified him for the private practice of medicine.

On the 5th of June, 1907, Dr. Heaps was married to Miss Georgiella Blake, and on the 1st of July he began practice in Kewanee in connection with Dr. Cole under the firm style of Cole & Heaps. In the months which have since elapsed he has secured a good practice and has demonstrated his ability in coping with intricate problems which continually confront the physician and surgeon in his efforts to restore health and prolong life. He keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the profession through his membership in the County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

---

### BAXTER FULLER.

Baxter Fuller, who is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres on section 35, Wethersfield township, this county, and forty acres in Stark county, and another of one hundred and sixty acres in Galva township, leases most of his land at the present time, cultivating only a small portion himself. He was born on the old homestead place on section 35, Wethersfield township, his natal day being March 29, 1845. His parents, Jehiel and Emeline Fuller, were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively and were married in the latter state. The first representatives of the family in this country came to the new world on the Mayflower. Jehiel Fuller, who made his way to Henry county about 1838, took up his abode among the earliest settlers of Wethersfield township and, locating on section 35, there successfully carried on his farming operations until called to his final rest about 1865, when he had attained the age of sixty-five years. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, three of whom are yet living, as follows: Baxter, of this review; Jehiel; and Mrs. Helen Maxfield, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

In early life Baxter Fuller enjoyed the educational advantages afforded by the district schools of his home locality. At the time of the Civil war he espoused the Union cause and for six months did duty as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. When he had attained his majority his father gave him eighty acres of land on the west quarter of section 35, Wethersfield township, where he erected the necessary buildings and made his home until 1895. About 1892 he purchased a tract of eighty acres adjoining this farm on the east and built thereon a new residence of eight rooms with all modern conveniences, including an acetylene gas plant. In 1895 he took up his abode in that dwelling and has continually extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase until it now comprises two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land. Until four years ago he was actively engaged in the operation of this large farm but now leases the greater part of the land and cultivates only a small tract, which he devotes principally to the raising of corn and garden truck. In addition to his agricultural inter-





MR. AND MRS. BAXTER FULLER



MR. AND MRS. JEHIEL FULLER



ests he has always given considerable attention to the raising of stock, keeping on hand from twenty-five to forty head of cattle, eight or ten horses and also some hogs. He likewise has a quarter section of land in Galva township which he rents, and his wife is the owner of a tract of one hundred acres on section 34 and 33, Wethersfield township. Formerly Mr. Fuller was also the owner of farming lands in Stark county, this state, and in Nebraska. The success which he now enjoys is entirely the result of his own well directed labor and enterprise and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive citizens of his native county.

On the 14th of September, 1869, at Toulon, Illinois, Mr. Fuller was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary A. Peterson, a daughter of Jonas and Martha Peterson, of Wethersfield township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fuller have been born three children, namely: Arthur, who is thirty-eight years of age and resides at home; May, the wife of Charles Broughton, an agriculturist of Wethersfield township; and Trella, a maiden of fourteen, who is at home.

Mr. Fuller is a stanch advocate of the prohibition party and an active worker in its ranks, believing that the liquor traffic is the worst evil with which our country has to contend. For four years he capably served as justice of the peace and has advanced the cause of education as a school director, acting in the latter capacity for some years. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Saxon Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee and in which he served as class leader for many years or until his recent resignation. For some time he also acted in the capacity of steward. He is well known throughout the county where his entire life has been passed and where he has so directed his efforts as to win the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

---

#### ERVIN CRAMER.

Success has come to many men who have labored earnestly and persistently. It is not an unusual thing to obtain a competence, but the record is one which never fails to elicit admiration and command respect if honorable methods have been followed in its attainment. Such has been the history of Ervin Cramer, who is now living retired in Cambridge after long years of active connection with agricultural interests. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, June 11, 1835, and in both the paternal and maternal lines comes of old families of Pennsylvania. His grandfathers were both farmers of the Keystone state. John Cramer, the father of our subject, was also born in Pennsylvania and made farming his life work. He arrived in Illinois during the pioneer epoch in its history, taking up his abode at Farmington in 1837, only five years after the Black Hawk war had determined the question of the supremacy of the white over the red race in this state. He had served as a drummer in the Black Hawk war and thus aided in reclaiming this state for the purposes of civilization. He died a few years later, when in middle life, while his wife reached the very advanced age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Cramer bore

the maiden name of Catharine Coble, and she too was a native of Pennsylvania. Both were members of the Methodist church, and the Christian teaching of their home left its impress upon the lives of their children. They reared eight to years of maturity, namely: Jacob, William, Daniel, Isaac, Samuel, Keys, Wesley and Ervin.

Ervin Cramer was only two years old when brought to Illinois by his parents and in Fulton county his youthful days were passed. When he had attained his majority he proudly cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan, and soon afterward he removed to Peoria county, this state. In his youthful days he had attended the old fashioned subscription schools where the methods of instruction were very primitive while the school term was of brief duration. The remainder of the year was devoted to the labors of the fields and he remained on the old home farm until he had attained his majority. For two years in his early manhood he engaged in cultivating the home place and then bought a colt which he traded for a tract of land at Bradford. Later he disposed of that property and in 1856 came to Henry county, purchasing eighty acres in Munson township, on which he turned the first furrows. He also fenced and improved the place and added to it a tract of one hundred and twenty acres which he still owns. As the years went by his farm work was conducted along the lines of progressive and modern agriculture, with the result that he became the owner of one of the best improved farms in the county, its rich fields making ready response in generous harvests to the care and labor which he bestowed upon them. He prospered as time passed on, and at length, feeling that his competence was sufficient to enable him to live retired, he removed to Cambridge on the 26th of February, 1902, and bought a fine residence, which he still occupies. He also owns his farm, which is one of the finest in the county, and the land for which he paid three dollars and thirty cents per acre would now sell for one hundred and fifty dollars per acre.

On the 14th of December, 1862, Mr. Cramer was united in marriage to Miss Lilley Hoose, who was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1845, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Phebe (Castaline) Hoose. Her parents were natives of the Empire state, whence they removed to Pennsylvania, while in the spring of 1851 they came to Illinois, settling in Munson township, Henry county, where the father purchased land and began farming. He died here January 20, 1875, at the age of sixty-two years, while his wife still survives him and is now in her ninety-second year. Mr. Hoose was the son of Jacob Hoose, a native of New York and of Dutch descent. The latter was loyal in his citizenship and served as a soldier of the war of 1812. He married Sarah Curtis, and their last days were passed in Pennsylvania. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Cramer were Louis and Elizabeth (Elster) Castaline. The former was also one of the defenders of American interests in the second war with England, and in days of peace he followed the occupation of farming. He was nearly ninety years of age at the time of his demise, while his wife passed the ninetieth milestone on life's journey. They had nine children, all of whom grew to maturity and were married, with the exception of one.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cramer were born two sons, but they lost both, Alfred having died at the age of seven years and John passing away in infancy. Politically Mr. Cramer is a democrat, and his support of the party is based upon an intelligent understanding of its principles and the belief in their efficacy as features in good government. In business he has won his success along lines which bear close investigation and scrutiny, for never has he sacrificed the interests of others to further his own prosperity.

---

### WILLIAM H. HOLZINGER.

Banking interests are the heart of the commercial body and indicate the healthfulness of trade. The bank that follows a safe, conservative policy in times of widespread financial depression does more to establish public confidence than any other one agency, and back of the institution are the men who manage and control its affairs. Active in this connection is William H. Holzinger, who in 1906 became the cashier of the Geneseo Savings bank and is also the president of the bank of Annawan. He makes his home in the latter town, and the records indicate that he is one of the native sons of Henry county for his birth occurred in Yorktown township on the 17th of August, 1861. His parents were George and Elizabeth (Lehman) Holzinger, the former a native of Baden, Germany, and the latter of this county. George Holzinger was a son of George Holzinger, Sr., who married a Miss Ackerman and with his family crossed the Atlantic to the new world. Locating in Henry county he here followed farming for many years, but is now deceased. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Lawrence Lehman, a native of Alsace, Germany. He wedded Elizabeth Lehman and on coming to the United States settled first at Warren, Pennsylvania, but afterward came to Henry county, Illinois, and cast in his lot with the first settlers of Loraine township. He, too, carried on general agricultural pursuits and spent his last days in Yorktown township, where he passed away when more than sixty years of age. His wife survived and died when over seventy years of age. They were the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters: Lawrence, Daniel, Jacob, William, Elizabeth and Clara. Of this family Elizabeth became the wife of George Holzinger, Jr., who during the early period of his residence in Illinois lived at Naperville. He afterward removed to Henry county and was one of the first to establish a home in Yorktown township, where he carried on general farming and reared his family. The soil, naturally rich and productive, responded generously to the care and labor which he bestowed upon it and as the years passed brought to him a substantial income. In community affairs he was somewhat active and held various local offices, the duties of which he discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He belonged to the German Evangelical church and died in that faith in 1891, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife, also a member of the same church, yet resides on the home farm. Their family numbered nine children, five sons and four daughters: William H.; Anna, the wife of John Wolf, of Pilot

Mound, Iowa; Ella, the wife of Edward Mapes, a resident of Annawan; Daniel J., cashier of the bank at Annawan; George A., also of the same town; Emma, a teacher in Iowa; Harvey E., who is assistant cashier of the Geneseo Savings Bank; Fred C., of Hooppole, Illinois; and Inez, at home.

William H. Holzinger, a lifelong resident of Henry county, was reared on the farm with all its routine of duties and its happy experiences. He attended the district schools and likewise continued his education in the Geneseo high school for a year, while later he attended the Northwestern College at Naperville. He afterward engaged in teaching school for fifteen years, and, taking up the study of law, was graduated from the Kent College of Law, in Chicago, with the class of 1898. He has never engaged in practice, but his knowledge of legal principles has been of material benefit to him in the conduct of business affairs. Following his graduation from the law school he turned his attention to the real-estate business and to banking, and the same year established the Bank of Annawan, while in May, 1906, he became one of the organizers of the Geneseo Savings Bank, of which he has served continuously as cashier. His real-estate holdings include farm lands in the Dakotas and in Minnesota. His discernment is keen, his judgment sound and reliable and his enterprise is undaunted by any of the usual obstacles and difficulties which bar the path to success. That he is one of the more progressive business men of the county is indicated in the fact that he was for two years the president of the Geneseo Business Men's Association.

On the 16th of June, 1891, Mr. Holzinger was married to Miss Ella Galvin, a daughter of William and Bridget (Duffey) Galvin. They now have two children, William Homer and Mary. Mr. Holzinger belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, F. & A. M.; to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Kewanee Commandery, K. T.; the Knights of Pythias; and the Modern Woodmen of America, and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit that underlies these organizations. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise he has given stalwart allegiance to the republican party, is serving as a member of the city council at Annawan, at the present time, formerly filled the office of justice of the peace and for several terms was school treasurer. In association with five others he was instrumental in building the armory in Geneseo. He is closely connected with the business development and progress of both cities and makes his home in Annawan, where he owns and occupies a beautiful residence. In his life he has displayed much of the initiative spirit which enables him to institute and execute carefully formulated plans and to coordinate forces until they bring about a successful conclusion.

---

### JOHN I. HUNT.

John I. Hunt, a prominent and successful farmer and stock raiser of Henry county, whose well directed efforts in this line of activity are bringing to him a gratifying measure of success, was born in Weller township on the 12th of July, 1863, a son of Henry J. and Ellen (Hoare) Hunt. The father, a

native of London, England was the eldest of four brothers who came to America with his mother about 1848. He came direct to Henry county, where he leased farms for many years, his remaining days being passed within the borders of this county. He was connected with the Masonic order, and passed away on the 25th of January, 1891, when fifty-two years of age. He was twice married, his first union being with Miss Ellen Hoare, a daughter of Samuel Hoare, one of the earliest settlers in Henry county. Unto them were born four children, namely: Clara, the wife of James Laub, of Weller township, now residing in Clark county, Nebraska; Alice, the widow of John Laub, also of Weller township, who now makes her home in Iowa; John I., of this review; and Alice, the wife of Frank Holt, of Cable, Illinois. After the death of his first wife he was united in marriage to Miss Ida Hall, a daughter of John I. Hall, who settled here about the time of the arrival of the Bishop Hill colony. She still survives him at the age of about sixty years, and is the mother of four children.

Spending the period of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, John I. Hunt was sent at the usual age to the public schools of Galva, where he acquired a good knowledge of the various branches of English learning. When not busily engaged with his text-books he assisted his father in the work of the home farm, and early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Upon attaining his majority he started out in the business world upon his own account, wisely choosing as his life's work the occupation to which he had been reared. He was employed on the farm of John I. Hall for eleven years, and during the meantime carefully saved his earnings, being ambitious of some day owning property himself. When he had accumulated sufficient means he purchased the farm of ninety acres which is now his home, and about eight years ago invested in fifty acres across the road from his original purchase, so that his holdings now aggregate one hundred and forty acres. The farm, which is located on section 2, Weller township, is all under a high state of cultivation, and he has made many improvements upon the place, so that now it is one of the valuable and desirable properties of the township. There was not a building nor a tree upon the place at the time it came into his possession, but since that time he has erected a neat and attractive residence and substantial barns and outbuildings, and he has also a good orchard and grove of his own planting. In connection with his general farming he makes a specialty of raising fine hogs, having on hand about one hundred head. Systematic, methodical and progressive in the conduct of his affairs, he is now enjoying a substantial income from the fact that both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving most remunerative.

It was on the 7th of March, 1889, in Bishop Hill, that Mr. Hunt was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Johnson, a native of Sweden, who came alone to this country in 1880, at the age of thirteen years. Unto this union have been born five children, namely: Cora E., nineteen years of age, who is now engaged in teaching school near her home; Harry D., eighteen years of age, assisting his father in the work of the home farm; Carl J., and Alice A., aged fifteen and thirteen years respectively, who are yet in school; and John I.,

Jr., three months old. The entire family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which the parents are members, while the children take an active part in the Sunday-school work.

Mr. Hunt gives his political allegiance to the democracy in all matters of national moment, but is independent in local elections, reserving the right to vote for the men and measures which in his opinion are best adapted to conserve the general welfare. Although not an office seeker, he was elected by his fellow citizens to the position of school director, which office he has filled efficiently for over twelve years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. His influence is ever upon the side of those matters which have for their object the material, intellectual and moral development of the community, and he is regarded as one of the representative and valued citizens of Weller township.

---

### HERBERT E. MALLORY.

Herbert E. Mallory, who since 1903 has been successfully engaged in business as a dealer in ice at Kewanee, was born in that city on the 23d of June, 1862, his parents being George W. and Susan S. (Smith) Mallory. The father, who was a native of New York, came to Kewanee, Henry county, Illinois, in 1845, there residing until 1888, when he took up his abode at Annawan. Throughout the remainder of his life he made his home at the latter place, passing away in June, 1901, when seventy-nine years of age. His wife was called to her final rest about a decade ago, at the age of sixty-eight years. They reared a family of ten children, all of whom still survive.

Herbert E. Mallory, who was the fifth in order of birth in his father's family, obtained his education in the public schools of his native city. After putting aside his text-books he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits and was continuously identified with that line of activity from 1881 until 1903, carrying on his farming interests first in Kewanee township and later in Annawan township. On returning to Kewanee in 1903 he embarked in business as an ice dealer and has since conducted an extensive and profitable enterprise of this character.

On the 13th of September, 1888, at Annawan, Illinois, Mr. Mallory was united in marriage to Miss Cora A. Willett, a daughter of John Willett, a veteran of the Civil war, who is a mason by trade and has made his home at Annawan since pioneer times. Mr. and Mrs. Mallory are the parents of one son, Preslo, who is now fourteen years of age. The family residence is at No. 618 North Main street.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Mallory gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but in local affairs he is a strong supporter of the labor party. For the past two years he has acted as alderman of the first ward. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church, while fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias and other orders. He is a most loyal and public-spirited citizen and no matter

in what relation of life we find him, whether in business life, political service or social circles, he is ever found to be the same honorable and honored gentleman, who well deserves the high regard and esteem which is uniformly given him.

---

### JOHN MANDLE.

John Mandle, owning and operating an excellent farm of one hundred and eighty-six and a half acres on section 17, Phenix township, was born in Newcastle, England, on the 25th of October, 1855, his parents being John and Anna (Johns) Mandle, who were likewise natives of the Merrie isle. The father, whose birth occurred in 1818, was a school teacher by profession and passed away in 1878. The mother, who was born in the year 1825, still survives and makes her home in England. They reared a family of six children, as follows: Amos, living in England; Stephen, who is a resident of Missouri; John, of this review; and Abraham, Edward and Luella, all of whom make their home in England.

John Mandle obtained his education in the schools of his native land and in early manhood worked by the month for several years. The many favorable reports which he had heard concerning the advantages that might be enjoyed in the new world led him to the determination to establish his home on this side of the Atlantic, and in 1878 he set sail for the United States. On arriving in this country he made his way to Carbon Cliff, Rock Island county, Illinois, where he worked in a brick yard for nine months and in the fall of 1878 came to Henry county. Securing employment as a farm hand in Colona township, he was thus engaged for a number of years and in 1895 purchased and located upon his present farm of one hundred and eighty-six and a half acres on section 17, Phenix township. He has since devoted his time and energies to its cultivation and improvement. His life has been one of untiring industry, and his sound judgment has guided his labors and won for him the measure of success which he now enjoys.

On the 29th of November, 1882, Mr. Mandle was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Kershaw, whose birth occurred in Henry county on the 15th of January, 1862, her parents being William and Ann (Rhodes) Kershaw, both natives of England. The father, who followed farming in that country, became a coal miner after emigrating to the United States in 1850. He passed away in 1902, having for two decades survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in 1882. Both lie buried in Rock Island county, Illinois. Of their family of thirteen children, three yet survive, namely: James, living in Briarbluff, Henry county; Anna, the wife of Charles Morrison, of Geneseo; and Mrs. Mandle. Mr. and Mrs. Mandle are the parents of four children. Myra, the eldest, whose birth occurred in this county on the 1st of September, 1883, is now the wife of George W. Wolf and resides in Wisconsin. She followed the profession of teaching prior to her marriage. William, who was born in Henry county on the 15th of April, 1885, now assists his father in the operation of the home farm. Ray K., whose birth occurred in Whiteside county

on the 15th of October, 1888, is at home with his parents. Charles J., born in Henry county on the 26th of August, 1894, is now attending school.

In his political views Mr. Mandle is a staunch republican and for some years capably served his fellow townsmen in the position of justice of the peace. His wife is a devoted and consistent member of the Evangelical church. He has now been a resident of this county for more than three decades and he never feels that he has any reason to regret his determination to seek his fortune in the United States, for he has found a good home here, has met with fair success in his business and has gained many friends whose regard and companionship make life pleasant for him.

---

#### FRANK E. MATHER.

Frank E. Mather is a well known representative of the farming and stock raising interests of Geneseo township. He lives on section 35, he and his sister, Lillian, each owning forty acres of land there. His birth occurred in Huron county, Ohio, while the sister is a native of Geneseo. They are children of Albert G. and Jane (Pomeroy) Mather, and the father was probably born in the same house which was the birthplace of him whose name introduces this review. The mother was a native of Pitcher, Cayuga county, New York. During her childhood her parents removed to Huron county, Ohio, where they were married. The paternal grandfather, Seba Mather, was born in Buckland, Massachusetts, and there wedded Cynthia Hastings. They, too, probably became residents of Huron county, Ohio, in pioneer times. The maternal grandparents were Stephen and Dorothy (Carter) Pomeroy. They were born in Buckland, Massachusetts, and removed from the Old Bay state to New York. Sometime afterward they went to Oberlin, Ohio, in order to educate their children, and afterward proceeded to Fitchville, Huron county, where Stephen Pomeroy remained until 1837. In that year he came to Henry county, Illinois, to buy land and also made investment in land in Knox county, Illinois. Dr. Enos Pomeroy, one of his sons, was the first of the family to move to Henry county. Several others of the family afterward came and later the parents followed, making permanent location in Geneseo. Stephen Pomeroy was twice married, his first wife having died in Huron county, Ohio, after which he married again. His death occurred in 1879. He was widely known as one of the leading agriculturists and landowners of this part of the state, his property interests in Illinois aggregating nineteen hundred and twenty acres, while near Adrian, Michigan, he had eighty acres. All of the children were given educational privileges.

Frank E. Mather was a little child of only two years when his parents left the Buckeye state and came to Henry county, Illinois. Soon afterward they removed to the farm which is now the home of their children and which had been given to Mrs. Mather by her father. It was in 1853 that Albert G. Mather came to Henry county and, thereafter, was closely associated with its agricultural development. He was a man of fair education by reason of

his school training, and to the knowledge thereby acquired he added by extensive reading, so that he became exceptionally well informed. He was a republican in his political views but not an office seeker, and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Congregational church.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Mather there were four children: Frank E. and Lillian, who are owners of the old homestead, where they reside; Pomeroy, who now lives on a farm in Washington county, Iowa; and Eugenie, who is living with her brother in Iowa.

---

### CHARLES LUNDELL.

Since 1889 Charles Lundell has been a resident of Henry county, and seeking success through persistent, earnest effort he has become the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he now occupies and cultivates, the place being on section 5, Munson township. His birth-place was a farm in Sweden. There he first opened his eyes to the light of day March 21, 1865, his parents being Gustav and Gustava (Abrennson) Peterson. The grandfather's name was Peterson until he went into the army, when, following the custom of the country, he took the name of Lundell. The father of our subject died in Sweden in 1882 and the mother is still living in that land. Of the five sons, four came to America: Alfred, who is now living near Orion, Henry county, and is married; Charles, of this review; Jacob, who follows farming in this county; and John, who is engaged in merchandising at Shelley, Idaho.

Charles Lundell was reared on the old home farm in his native land and in his youthful days worked out at farm labor for he was one of five sons and the financial resources of the parents were hardly sufficient to provide comfortably for all the members of the household. He acquired a fair common-school education and when twenty-one years of age he entered military service and received sixty days' training in artillery practice. In the meantime favorable reports concerning America and its opportunities reached him and sounded very attractive to him. He determined that he would one day seek his home in the new world, and on the 25th of November, 1888, he was married and the following spring came with his wife to the United States. They made their way to Henry county, making choice of their destination from the fact that Mrs. Lundell has an uncle living here. Mr. Lundell began to work by the month as a farm hand and was thus employed for two years, after which he rented land and began farming on his own account. He thus tilled soil which he leased until 1901, when his savings were sufficient to enable him to purchase the farm of one hundred and sixty acres upon which he now resides. He is busily engaged in bringing this under a high state of cultivation and the rich and productive land responds rapidly to the care and labor which he bestows upon it.

As previously stated, Mr. Lundell was married on the 25th of November, 1888, the lady of his choice being Miss Christine Louise Swanson, also a

native of Sweden. They now have one son, Frank, who was born July 10, 1889, in Atkinson township, and has been provided with good common-school privileges. The parents are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are numbered among the leading representatives of the Swedish people who have come to Henry county and been factors in its agricultural development. Mr. Lundell has always given his political support to the republican party since winning the right of franchise, but does not seek office although he is interested in the various measures and movements which are factors in the county's up-building and progress.

---

### ALBERT LESLIE HAYES.

No matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge as to the causation of success, careful analysis will bring to light in the great majority of cases the fact that progress and prosperity in the business world are the direct outcome of persistent labor and intelligently directed energy. This is manifest in the record of Albert Leslie Hayes, vice president and manager of the sales department of the Hayes Pump and Planter Company of Galva. It is true that he entered upon a business already established but it is also true that his close application and unfaltering diligence have been elements which have wrought for continued success in this enterprise.

A native of Illinois, he was born near Saxon, November 19, 1873, his father being Eugenio Hayes, the founder of the business, which is now carried on by the sons. He was one of the most honored and prominent residents of Galva not only in his business relations but also by virtue of the sterling traits of character which he manifested, and extended mention of him is made on another page of this volume.

The removal of the family to Kewanee during his early boyhood enabled Albert Leslie Hayes to pursue his preliminary studies in the public schools of that city and later he continued his education in Galva, to which city he came with his parents in 1885. He was a high school student here and later entered the University of Illinois, at Urbana, in 1893. He pursued his studies there for one year and in 1894 matriculated in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he pursued a course in chemistry. He afterward made his home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, for nine years and during that period traveled for the Hayes Pump and Planter Company, largely accelerating its sales through the patronage he secured in introducing its products into various localities. For the past two years he has been the vice president of the company and for the past four years has had charge of the sales department.

On the 17th of June, 1903, Albert L. Hayes was married to Miss Eleanor Lehman, a daughter of William H. and Carrie I. (Swan) Lehman. Mrs. Hayes was born in Des Moines, Iowa, while her parents were natives of Ohio. Her father became a resident of Des Moines at an early day and her mother was one of the early residents of Norwalk, Iowa. The former served as a musician in the Civil war and his musical talent was manifest in the

choice of a profession, for he is now proprietor of a music store in Des Moines, where he and his wife have now made their home for a number of years. Mrs. Hayes is their only living child. Her paternal grandfather, Henry Lehman, was a native of Ohio and for a long period engaged in the grocery business. He married a Miss Gemmel, and they were early residents of Des Moines, where both passed away at an advanced age. They had a large family including George Lehman, a resident of Columbus, Nebraska; Mrs. Carl Koehler, of Des Moines, who is now deceased; Julia, the wife of F. W. Youngerman; and Henry, who has also passed away. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Hayes was a native of Norwalk, Ohio, and was a newspaper man who about 1850 was the publisher of a paper in Columbus, Ohio. He represented one of the oldest families of the Buckeye state, his parents having removed from Norwalk, Connecticut, to Ohio, in pioneer times, while later they were residents of Norwalk, Iowa, and named the town in memory of their old home in New England.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayes are members of the Episcopal church and Mr. Hayes belongs to the Bluff City Lodge, No. 71, A. F. & A. M. at Council Bluffs, Iowa; Star Chapter, R. A. M., of Council Bluffs; Ivanhoe Commandery, K. T., of the same city; and Des Moines Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a republican in his political views but demands of business leave him no time for political activity. He bends his energies to the development of the enterprise which his father established and which is one of the foremost industries of Galva.

---

#### ABEL D. WARD.

Abel D. Ward is conducting a profitable business as a farmer and breeder of polled Durham stock. His home is on section 1, Munson township, and his farm of two hundred acres extends over the boundary line into Geneseo township. He was born in the house which he now occupies, March 16, 1871, and is a son of Benjamin and Amanda (Yonker) Ward, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume. He was reared to farm life and in his boyhood attended the district schools, while at fifteen years of age he entered the Collegiate Institute in Geneseo, being graduated therefrom with the class of 1890. He was afterward elected to represent the alumni association on the board of trustees of that institution, and served for twelve years. After completing his school days he cultivated his father's farm as a renter for two years. He was at that time but nineteen years of age and Henry P. Billings and his family lived upon the farm and kept house for him. Mr. Ward's early experience in the fields as he assisted his father through the periods of vacation qualified him to assume the management of the farm at an early age and in all of his work he has been most practical and energetic, passing by no opportunity in a heedless manner but using his advantages in such a way as to win success along honorable business lines. As the years have gone by he has prospered in his undertakings and as his financial resources increased he planned to purchase the home farm and is now the owner of two hundred acres of rich and arable land, much of which lies in section 1, Munson town-

ship. Upon the farm are good improvements, the fences and buildings being kept in a state of good repair, while the fields are well tilled and the latest improved machinery is used in cultivating and caring for the crops. An important feature of the place is the breeding of polled Durham stock, and Mr. Ward has raised some very fine cattle upon his place, deriving from their sale a substantial annual income.

On the 16th of February, 1893, Abel D. Ward was married to Miss Helen Edwards, who was born on a farm in Western township, and is a daughter of Herbert and Harriet (Gordon) Edwards. Her father was a native of Vermont and in his childhood days accompanied his parents to Illinois, the family driving across the country to this state, which was then a pioneer district. The death of Mr. Edwards occurred when his daughter Helen was only about a year old. Her mother was a native of Michigan and with her parents went to Moline, where she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Edwards. Mrs. Ward was the youngest of a family of seven children, of whom six reached years of maturity. Carrie became the wife of Frank Stewart and died in Delta, Colorado, leaving five children. Frank H., living in Henry county, married Anna Smith and has four children. Clarence A., resides in Kearney, Nebraska. Flora is the wife of William Tully, of Grand Island, Nebraska, and has three sons. Grace is the wife of Clarence Ward, a cousin of Abel D. Ward, and a resident of Atkinson township.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Abel D. Ward has been blessed with five children: Grace, who will enter the Collegiate Institute of Geneseo in the fall of 1909; Herbert; Clara Marion; Frank Robert; and Charles Edward. The parents are members of the First Presbyterian church in Geneseo and in the work of the church have taken active and helpful part, Mr. Ward serving as superintendent of the Sunday school for many years, while for about fifteen years he has been an elder in the church. His religious principles constitute the guiding factor in his life, making him a man of unquestioned business integrity and of lofty purpose. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party. While he believes in many of the principles of the former he is a staunch temperance man and greatly desires to see the abolition of the liquor traffic. He is a man whom to know is to esteem and honor, his sterling qualities winning him friendship and regard from all with whom he comes in contact.

---

#### WILBER L. ROBERTS.

Wilber L. Roberts, who devotes his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, is the owner of an excellent farm of eighty acres on section 15, Phenix township, where he resides, and also has another tract of fifty acres on section 14 of the same township. His birth occurred January 8, 1862, on the farm which is now his place of residence, his parents being John and Nancy (McHenry) Roberts. The father, a native of Henry county, was called to his final rest in 1883. Our subject is the younger of two sons and a sketch of his brother appears on another page of this work.

Wilber L. Roberts obtained a good practical education in the common schools and remained on the home farm until he had attained his majority, giving his father the benefit of his services in the work of the fields. When twenty-one years of age he secured employment in a meat market and at the same time devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits as a renter. He was engaged in the cultivation of rented land for some years and subsequently took up his abode in Geneseo, where he purchased a barber shop, which he successfully conducted for about four years. After disposing of that establishment he worked at the carpenter's trade in Geneseo for a few years and then once more became identified with farming pursuits. He located on the old homestead farm in Phenix township, a portion of which he had inherited at the time of his father's death and of which he afterward became sole owner by purchasing the brother's interest. The property comprises eighty acres of productive land on section 15 and he also has another farm of fifty acres on section 14. He has ever followed the most practical and progressive methods of agriculture, and his labors have been rewarded by rich crops.

Mr. Roberts has been married twice, his first union being with Miss Allie Williams. On the 17th of April, 1890, he wedded Miss Frances McHenry, a native of Phenix township and a daughter of Asbury and Polly Ann (Foster) McHenry. In his political views Mr. Roberts is a stalwart republican but he has no desire for the honors nor emoluments of office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his private interests. Both he and his wife have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county where they have always resided, their upright and honorable lives commanding the confidence and good will of all with whom they have been associated.

---

#### WILLIAM C. VOSS.

William C. Voss, seeking his success along legitimate business lines, is now conducting a real-estate and insurance office in Geneseo and in both branches of business has secured a liberal clientage. He was born in Henry, Illinois, September 24, 1865, and in both the paternal and maternal lines is of Irish descent. His paternal grandparents were natives of County Cork, Ireland, where they spent their entire lives and reared their family of two sons, Patrick and James, both of whom came to the United States, the latter serving as a soldier of the Union army in the Civil war. The maternal grandparents were also born in Ireland and never left that country. They had one son and three daughters: John, Ellen, Mrs. Margaret Berney, and Mrs. Mary Welch. The parents of our subject were Patrick and Ellen (Feeney) Voss. The former was born in Ireland, where he remained until seventeen years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, taking up his abode at Bureau, Illinois, where he owned the land that constitutes the present site of the town. In the early days he furnished the wood which was used as fuel in the engines of the Rock Island railroad and employed a large force of men in the timber. Afterward he engaged in farming for a number of years, and the last fifteen years

of his life were quietly passed in Geneseo, where he died March 18, 1907, at the age of eighty-two years and one day. His wife had passed away at the age of forty-five years, and both were faithful adherents of the teachings of the Catholic church. Their family of ten children was equally divided as to sons and daughters, the children being: John H.; May, the wife of W. W. White, of Chicago; Anna, the wife of Tony Meyer, of St. Louis; Milly, the wife of Allen Chipley, of Colorado; William C.; Edward, a resident of Chicago; Della, the wife of George Watrous, of Dubuque, Iowa; Frank, a resident of Gilchrist, Illinois; Joseph, whose home is in South Bend, Indiana; and Ella, the wife of Harry Anderson, also of Gilchrist.

William C. Voss was a young lad when his parents located on the farm in Henry county, which was his place of abode until he was twelve or thirteen years of age. During that period he had pursued his education in the district schools and in the public schools of Geneseo and when a young lad of thirteen years he started out to make his own way in the world. He followed various pursuits and when sixteen years of age began learning the barber's trade, at which he engaged for several years. During that time he patented a steam shampooing machine for which he found a ready sale. He has lived in Geneseo for the past twenty-five years, and he continued to engage in barbering until 1893, after which he spent five years upon the road as a traveling salesman. In 1898 he turned his attention to the real estate and insurance business, in which he still continues, representing a number of the oldtime insurance companies and negotiating many important property transfers.

Mr. Voss was married in 1885, to Miss Bernice Harbaugh, a native of Geneseo and a daughter of William and Matilda (Luther) Harbaugh, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Voss are Harry W., Herbert Perry and John Clayton. Mrs. Voss belongs to the Congregational church and Dr. Voss is connected with the Red Men and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a republican but does not seek preferment in office, his business interests making full claim upon his time and attention. In addition to his real-estate and insurance interests he owns the Wigwam, a building in which he is conducting a moving picture show—one of the most popular forms of entertainment at the present time. He also owns a farm of one hundred and twelve acres in Geneseo township and a good home at the corner of Center and Second streets, his property interests being the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift.

---

#### ROBERT W. McLEESE.

Robert W. McLeese is a successful farmer and stock raiser of Western township, owning a tract of one hundred and twenty-one and a quarter acres on section 11. He was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, February 9, 1861, a son of James and Nancy (Love) McLeese. The father was killed by a train when the son was but a small boy and the mother subsequently married again. He was accorded fair educational advantages in the schools of his

native state and when seventeen years of age began learning the harness maker's trade. In 1882 he accompanied his mother and stepfather to Henry county, the home being established on a farm now owned by William Love. After coming to Henry county Mr. McLeese worked at his trade in Orion during one winter and then began work on the farm of an uncle.

Mr. McLeese was married on the 4th of February, 1886, to Miss Ida May Washburn, who was born in Western township, July 16, 1859, a daughter of Chauncey E. and Emily (Piatt) Washburn. Following this important step in his life, Mr. McLeese operated land belonging to Mr. Washburn until he purchased his present place of one hundred and twenty-one and a quarter acres. He has made many improvements in the way of substantial buildings and occupies a good country residence. He carries on farming and also raises stock, both branches of his business bringing him a good profit.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. McLeese have been born three children but the eldest, Roy Washburn, who was well educated, died December 18, 1908, at the age of twenty-one years. Nellie May, who was born December 28, 1890, received a good education and is at home. Lester Otis, who was born February 10, 1895, is also under the parental roof. Mr. McLeese gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party, but has never sought nor desired office. He is truly a self-made man, for at an early age he started out to make his own way in the world and as the years have gone by he has met with well deserved success, so that he may be counted among the influential farmers of Henry county.

---

#### PHILIP MONROE GRIGGS.

One of the most attractive mercantile establishments of Kewanee is the Griggs Music House, which is owned and conducted by Philip Monroe Griggs, a man of enterprise, watchful of opportunity and utilizing every advantage which comes to him for the legitimate development of his commercial interests. He was born in Centerville, Allegany county, New York, on the 15th of January, 1849, his parents being Philip and Marytta (Marvin) Griggs, the former a farmer by occupation.

The son, Philip Monroe Griggs, is indebted to the public school system of his native city for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed, while later he had the benefit of instruction in Pike Seminary, at Pike, Wyoming county, New York. After leaving school he turned his attention to farming in Wyoming county and there resided until 1871, when he went to Georgia and lived upon a plantation near Madison, Morgan county. In 1877 he took up his abode in Madison and turned his attention to the farm implement business, being the first to introduce improved implements into that section of the country, which, somewhat conservative, had not yet adopted the modern processes of agriculture. At a later date Mr. Griggs began dealing in sewing machines, continuing his residence in the south until 1893, when he came to Kewanee. Here he entered the employ of E. S. Whiting in the implement business and so continued for

three years. In 1896, however, he bought out P. B. Keeler, a dealer in sewing machines, and in 1899 purchased the piano business of C. L. Lindburg, after which he established the Griggs Music House for the purpose of dealing in pianos, organs, talking machines, records, sheet music and sewing machines. In the ten years which have since elapsed he has built up a good business and now has a well appointed and well equipped establishment at No. 219 West Second street, his close application and readiness of resource in business being strong and salient features in the attainment of the prosperity which is now his.

On the 20th of November, 1872, Mr. Griggs was married in Pike, Wyoming county, New York, to Miss Anna M. Rockwell, a daughter of John D. Rockwell, late of Kewanee. Their children are: Arthur Platt, who wedded Elizabeth Ames of Davenport, Iowa; Victor Rockwell, of Havre, Montana; Theodore James, who married Hazel Collins; and Philip Hoyt.

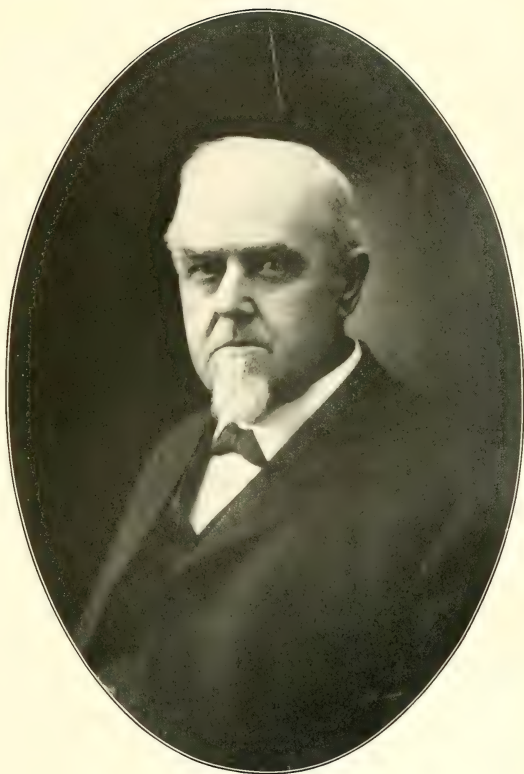
In his political views Mr. Griggs has always been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and he served as postmaster at Social Circle, Walton county, Georgia, for two years. He holds membership with the Yeomen of America and the Mystic Workers of the World, and is also a member of the Congregational church. He went south as a young man but found the enterprise and appreciation of the middle west more to his liking and in the years of his residence in Kewanee has made steady progress, which has brought him to a prominent position in the business circles of the city.

---

#### ISAAC N. WILSON.

In a history of Henry county there can be found the record of no man who is more highly respected or more justly deserves the esteem in which he is held than of Isaac N. Wilson. For many years he was closely associated with the work of public progress and improvement and also with the business development of the county. He is now living retired in Geneseo, enjoying well earned rest, which is the result of his former toil. He was born in Washington county, New York, on the east side of the Hudson river, near the Vermont line, May 7, 1824, his parents being Isaac and Phoebe (Temple) Wilson. The father, who was a native of New York, was a son of Lieutenant James Wilson, who was born in Greenwich, Rhode Island, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, participating in the battle of Saratoga and in other important engagements which led to the final victory that crowned the American arms. On the 29th of May, 1776, he married Martha Hopkins. His death occurred when he had reached the age of seventy-six years while his wife was about ninety years of age at the time of her demise. The Wilsons were of Scotch-Irish descent but, as is indicated, the family was established in this country in early colonial days.

Isaac Wilson, the father of him whose name introduces this review, devoted his life to the occupation of farming and for many years continued a resident of New York. He married Miss Phoebe Temple, who was born at Hillsboro in the



ISAAC N. WILSON



town of Antrim, New Hampshire, her father being a farmer of that state. They began their domestic life upon a farm in New York and for many years Mr. Wilson was identified with agricultural interests in the east but finally followed his children to the west and took up his abode upon a farm near Geneseo. Later he removed to the town where he passed away in the '70s, having survived his wife for only a week. Both died of pneumonia. They were members of the Presbyterian church and people of the highest respectability, honored wherever known and most of all where they were best known. Mr. Wilson had served as police magistrate for several years in Washington county, New York, and had also filled the office of supervisor. Unto him and his wife were born seven children but only two are now living. David Wilson, the youngest of the family, resides near the old homestead at Hebron, Washington county, New York.

Isaac N. Wilson spent his youthful days on his father's farm in Washington county and attended the district schools, later supplementing his preliminary education by study in an academy in western New York. He remained at home until he had attained his majority and was busily employed in the work of the fields, receiving thus the practical business training which well qualified him for the duties that devolved upon him when he started out in life on his own account. In March, 1854, he arrived in Geneseo, traveling over the Rock Island railroad, which had been but recently completed, the first train reaching this city on the 22d of February, of that year. Here Mr. Wilson became connected with the grain business as a representative of a Chicago house and as his industry and careful expenditure brought him sufficient capital, he invested in land, purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Munson township. He held that property for a few years and then sold it, after which he formed a partnership with James McBroom and purchased an elevator. They were together for many years or until the death of Mr. McBroom which occurred in February, 1895. They also handled live stock, both cattle and hogs. As the years passed their business was crowned with a gratifying measure of success such as always follows unfaltering perseverance, unabating energy and untiring diligence. Moreover in all of his business dealings Mr. Wilson was thoroughly reliable, ever regarding honesty as the best policy.

On the 26th of December, 1885, Mr. Wilson was married in New York to Miss Ann Eliza Joslin, a daughter of William and Ann (Stevens) Joslin, having returned to the Empire state for his bride. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were born five children: Ida, who died when eighteen years of age; Frankie, who died in infancy; Eugene, of Exira, Iowa; who married Jennie M. Bliss, who died in 1904, leaving a son, Irving Newton, while after her demise he wedded Belle Lancelot; Edward Newton, who married Elma Henney and lives in Wausau, Nebraska; and Emily Eliza, the wife of Fred L. Smith, a merchant of Geneseo, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. The wife and mother died March 4, 1886, at the age of fifty-six years. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and an earnest Christian woman, whose many good qualities endeared her to all with whom she came in contact, so that her death was the occasion of deep regret not only to her immediate family but also to her many friends.

Mr. Wilson was one of the charter members of the first Odd Fellows lodge in Geneseo. In politics he has been a stalwart republican since the organization

of the party. He became a member of the first board of supervisors of the county and was chairman of the board when the present courthouse was built. He is now the only surviving member of that first board and was one of the oldest citizens of the county, having for more than a half century been a witness of the growth and development of Geneseo and this part of the state. The only brick building in the town when Mr. Wilson came here was the old seminary west of the Congregational church. He built his present home in 1863 which he has since altered and improved, it being one of the substantial and attractive old residences of the city. Mr. Wilson is undoubtedly one of the best known residents of Geneseo, gaining a wide acquaintance in the years of his long business activity in the city. His characteristics, too, have been such as have won him friendship and regard and now in the evening of life he receives the veneration and esteem which should ever be accorded those who have traveled far on life's journey.

---

### OSCAR E. SANQUIST.

Oscar E. Sanquist, editor and publisher of the Cambridge Chronicle, was born in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, May 1, 1875, his parents being John A. and Hannah (Johnson) Sanquist, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The father was a tailor by trade, learning the business in his native country, whence he came to America as a young man, settling at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where he carried on the tailoring business. He was for a long period closely, actively and honorably associated with the business interests of that city and there passed away in September, 1901, when about fifty-seven years of age. His wife died March 2, 1893, when about forty-eight years of age. She was a member of the Christian church, and many excellent traits of her character left their impress upon the lives of her eight children. The family numbered six sons and two daughters, of whom six are now living: Oscar E.; Alfred Charles, who makes his home in Valparaiso, Indiana; Victor E., living in Cambridge, Illinois; Arthur N., who is engaged in the banking business in La Grange, Illinois; Walter T., a farmer residing near Hemingford, Nebraska; and Ernest.

Oscar E. Sanquist was reared in his native city and attended its public schools. He began learning the printer's trade when about fifteen years of age and has since been identified therewith, his long experience bringing him thorough familiarity with the business in principle and detail. On the 6th of February, 1899, he came to Cambridge and on the 1st of October, 1903, he took charge of the Cambridge Chronicle as business manager. Three years later he purchased the plant and has since conducted it, publishing the Chronicle as a republican weekly, and also conducting a general job printing business. The paper has a good circulation and is regarded as an excellent advertising medium. It is printed in neat and attractive form and is devoted to the dissemination of general and local news.

On the 27th of June, 1901, Mr. Sanquist was married to Miss Edith C. Kinsey, a daughter of Jared C. and Sarah C. (Hawley) Kinsey, and a native of Cambridge. Two children have been born of this marriage, Leslie A. and

Lillian, who died at the age of two years. The parents are members of the Baptist church, and Mr. Sanquist belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and to the Improved Order of Red Men. Constantly alert to the opportunities for improvement and progress in the city, he champions all worthy public measures and has wielded a wide influence in his support of many movements for the public good. He has made steady progress in business since starting out for himself at the age of fifteen years, and his success is doubtless largely due to the fact that he has remained throughout the entire period in the line in which he embarked as a young tradesman.

---

### EDWARD HENRY HORNECKER.

Edward Henry Hornecker, the owner of a fine farm comprising two hundred and forty acres on section 14, Osco township, devotes his time and energies to agricultural and stock raising pursuits with excellent results. He was born in Western township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 10th of August, 1870, his parents being G. Jacob and Katharine (Ernst) Hornecker, both natives of Baden Baden, Germany. The father's birth occurred on the 30th of September, 1838, while the mother first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 6th of February, 1839. When about eighteen years of age G. Jacob Hornecker accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established at Quincy, Illinois. Later they took up their abode in Henry county, and here Mr. Hornecker met and married Miss Katharine Ernst, who had crossed the Atlantic with her parents in her girlhood days. Mr. Hornecker has been identified with general agricultural pursuits in this county throughout his active business career and, owing to his well directed and untiring industry, has met with a gratifying measure of success in his undertakings, becoming an extensive landowner. He accumulated altogether seven hundred and twenty acres, a portion of which is located in Dakota. Coming to the new world empty-handed, the prosperity which he now enjoys is entirely the result of his own efforts and his record may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others. Unto him and his wife were born nine children, as follows: Katy, who became the wife of Louis Koch and passed away in Osco, leaving two children: Emma, who makes her home on a farm in Osco township and is the wife of Louis Blank, by whom she has five children; Edward Henry, of this review; Christina, who passed away when twenty-one years of age; George, who wedded Miss Clara Willie, has five children and resides in Geneseo; Ida, living in Munson township, who is the wife of Frank Hadley and has two children; William, who resides in Geneseo and who married Miss Mollie Pink, by whom he has one child; Rosa, who makes her home with her father in Geneseo; and Frank, who wedded Miss Bessie Reubeck and resides in Geneseo.

Edward Henry Hornecker was about seven years of age when he removed with his parents to the farm on which he now lives and which has remained his place of residence to the present time. He obtained his education in the

common schools and gave his father the benefit of his services in the work of the fields until twenty-two years of age. He then rented a tract of land from his father for a number of years and in 1900 purchased the old homestead place at ninety dollars an acre. The property comprises two hundred and forty acres on section 14, Osco township, and is now worth about one hundred and seventy-five dollars an acre. In 1906 he built a silo with a capacity of one hundred and twenty tons, but the residence, barns and outbuildings on the place were all erected by his father. In the conduct of his farming and stock raising interests he has won a most gratifying measure of success and well deserves representation among the substantial, enterprising and progressive citizens of the community.

On the 2d of November, 1893, Mr. Hornecker was united in marriage to Miss Theresa Hamann, a native of Geneseo and a daughter of Henry and Theresa (Sieben) Hamann, both of whom were born in Germany. The father, whose birth occurred in Wiesbaden on the 16th of April, 1830, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1854, landing at New York, where he remained for two years. In the year 1865, at Springfield, Illinois, he wedded Miss Theresa Sieben and after residing in that city for a time took up his abode in Spring Hill, Illinois. After a short period, however, he came to Geneseo, where he successfully followed his trade of shoemaking for a number of years. In 1870 he purchased a farm in Osco township and there spent the remainder of his life, passing away on the 11th of August, 1907, at the age of seventy-seven years, three months and twenty-six days. His was an active, useful and honorable career and his death was deeply mourned by all who knew him. His widow still survives and makes her home in Osco township. Their children are four in number, namely: Henry, a resident of Edford township; Charles; Louie; and Mrs. Hornecker, all living in Osco township. Mr. and Mrs. Hornecker are the parents of three children: George Henry, born December 13, 1894; Lydia Ida, whose natal day was December 4, 1897; and Earl Edward, whose birth occurred on the 20th of June, 1905.

Mr. Hornecker is independent in his political views, casting his ballot in support of the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office, regardless of party affiliation. Both he and his wife are devoted and consistent members of St. John's German Lutheran church in Edford. They have always been residents of this county and are well known and highly esteemed as people of genuine personal worth, and upright, honorable lives.

---

#### EDWARD B. DAWES.

His ready solution of business problems and capable control of industrial interests have led to the selection of Edward B. Dawes as manager and cashier of the Geneseo branch of the William Numsen & Sons Canning Company, incorporated. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, August 18, 1844, and represents one of the old families of that state. His grandfather, who was of Welsh descent, was born in Maryland, where he had a plantation and owned

a number of slaves. Both he and his wife lived to a ripe old age, and they reared a family of twelve sons.

Edward B. Dawes, Sr., the father of our subject, was born in Maryland and his youthful days were spent on his father's plantation in Harford county. When a young man he began learning the blacksmith's trade and later became a stationary engineer, following that pursuit for many years. He was elected high constable, or sheriff, of the city and county of Baltimore, filling that position for several terms in a most capable and commendable manner. At length he removed to Ohio, settling in Ross county, where he died in 1882, when about seventy years of age. In early manhood he had married Ellen Sullivan, who was likewise a native of Maryland and a daughter of Florence Sullivan, who was born in London, England, of Irish parentage. Coming to America he devoted his life to farming. He married Miss Parrish, a daughter of Aquilla and Priscilla (Belt) Parrish, the latter being a representative of one of the oldest, largest and most prominent families of Maryland; descended from Umphrey Belt, who went to Maryland from England about 1650. He was accompanied by two brothers, whose names are now unknown. One here died on this side of the Atlantic, but the other returned to England, leaving Umphrey Belt and his five sons, John, Jeremiah, Richard, Joseph and Leonard, as the surviving representatives of the name in the new world. Of these Joseph Belt and one son died in Baltimore county and are buried there near Dover. His widow, Mrs. Elnora (Randall) Belt, took her three children to Ohio and settled in Fairfield county. Another son of Umphrey Belt also went to the Buckeye state, taking up his abode in Licking county and on the removal was accompanied by his eleven sons. The other children of Umphrey Belt remained in Maryland, one settling in Prince George county, where his descendants are now numerous. The Parrish family became connected with the Belt family through the marriage of Aquilla Parrish and Priscilla Belt. Their daughter became the wife of Florence Sullivan, and unto them was born a daughter, Ellen, who became the wife of Edward B. Dawes, Sr. She passed to her final rest at the age of sixty, some years prior to the death of her husband. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church, their Christian faith being exemplified in their upright lives. Their family numbered thirteen children, four sons and nine daughters, but only two are now living, the other being Mrs. Mollie G. Dol, of Philadelphia.

The elder is Edward B. Dawes of this review. He was reared in Baltimore, Maryland, where he attended the public schools. When twelve years of age he began learning the bookbinder's trade, which he followed for three years, and later he learned the tinner's trade. In 1863 he enlisted for military service as a member of Company C, Tenth Maryland Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as a private for eight months, participating during the period in a number of skirmishes but in no hard fought battles. After the war he served for one year in secret service and then resumed his trade, which he followed until 1868. In that year he turned his attention to the canning business in Baltimore and was associated therewith until 1881, when he removed to Chillicothe, Ross county, Ohio. In 1887 he went to Davenport, Iowa, where he conducted canneries until 1898. For two years thereafter he was a resident of Webster

City, Iowa, after which he removed to the Bahama Islands, where he engaged in packing pineapples for a time. The year 1904 witnessed his arrival in Geneseo, where he established a large canning factory, which is now one of the important industries of the city, furnishing employment to about three hundred people in the busy season in the canning of peas and corn. The excellence of the product of this factory insures a ready sale on the market, and from the beginning the business has proved a profitable one.

On the 31st of August, 1869, Mr. Dawes was married to Miss Emma Allen, a daughter of Florence and Mary Allen, who were natives of New York, while Mrs. Dawes was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The children of this marriage are: Mary Emma, the wife of Andrew Garner, of Longmont, Colorado, by whom she has one daughter, Edna; Alice B., who died at the age of twenty-six years; Sciota, who died when about two years old; Ida V., who is a teacher employed in the schools of Davenport, Iowa; Roberta, the wife of Hugh J. Harrison, and the mother of one daughter, Dorothy; Raymond, who is at home; and Ruth, who is still in school.

Mr. and Mrs. Dawes hold membership in the Congregational church and contribute generously to its support. Mr. Dawes belongs to Trinity Lodge, No. 208, A. F. & A. M., of Davenport. His political views are in harmony with the platform of the republican party. While in Davenport he served as city alderman but does not seek nor desire office at the present time. He finds that his business affairs make heavy demands upon his energies and attention, his labors, however, bringing him the substantial reward of persistent purpose and honorable effort. He is now well known as a prominent representative of the industrial and commercial interests here, and his business is one which contributes to general prosperity as well as to individual success.

---

### CHARLES E. MULLIGAN.

Charles E. Mulligan, attorney at law at the Kewanee bar, now practicing as the junior partner of the firm of Haskins & Mulligan, was born in Biggsville, Illinois, November 22, 1881, and is a son of Joseph H. and Catherine (Dixon) Mulligan, the former now agent for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Kewanee. Extended mention of the father is made on another page of this volume.

Charles E. Mulligan was a little lad of five years when his parents came to Kewanee, and in the public schools of this city he acquired his preliminary education, while later he spent three years as a pupil in St. Bede's College at Peru, Illinois. On the completion of his literary course he took up the study of law in Notre Dame University in Indiana and finished his preparation for the bar by a year's reading in the office and under the direction of Charles E. Sturtz, of Kewanee, being admitted to practice on the 4th of April, 1906. He had previously been professor of telegraphy at Notre Dame University for a year and in 1905 was elected city clerk of Kewanee, which position he filled for two years. On his retirement from that office in 1907 he began the practice of law

alone and in 1909 entered into partnership with Thomas N. Haskins, of LaSalle county, Illinois, under the firm name of Haskins & Mulligan. Although a young man he has made an excellent record during the period of his active connection with the profession and his ambition, diligence and known fidelity to his clients' interests will undoubtedly bring to him increasing success as the years go by. He is careful and thorough in the preparation of cases and his careful analysis of his cases, combined with logical deductions is constituting him one of the strong members of the Kewanee bar.

Mr. Mulligan is a member of the church of the Visitation (Catholic.). Fraternally he is connected with the Elks, was secretary of the local lodge and was made an honorary life member of the order, while he is also a member of the Mystic Workers and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and he is recognized as one of the workers in its ranks in this county.

---

### BENJAMIN WARD.

In the life of Benjamin Ward there were many qualities which gained him firm hold upon the affection and regard of friends, neighbors and all with whom he came in contact. There was never any esoteric chapter in his history, and with strong hatred of hypocrisy and sham he so lived that his position was never an equivocal one, but, on the contrary, his record was such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. For a long period he was connected with the farming interests of Henry county and for a time lived retired in Geneseo, but his last days were spent in Boulder, Colorado.

Mr. Ward was a native of Somersetshire, England, born May 3, 1837. His youthful days were there passed, and during that period he was denied the opportunity of even a common-school education. He had spent his boyhood on a farm and the years of his minority constituted a period of earnest and persistent toil. In 1861, when about twenty-four years of age, he bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for America, for the reports which he had heard concerning business opportunities and advantages in this country led him to the belief that he might more rapidly acquire a competence here. He did not tarry in the east but made his way at once to Henry county, Illinois, and in the vicinity of Geneseo secured employment as a farm hand. He was very economical and diligent and saved every dollar possible from his wages until he could gain a start for himself.

On the 21st of October, 1864, Mr. Ward chose as a companion and helpmate for life's journey Miss Amanda Yonker, of Munson township, and immediately thereafter the young couple began their domestic life upon a farm. About a year later Mr. Ward made his first purchase of land, becoming owner on the 19th of October, 1865, of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 1, Munson township. With characteristic energy he began to till the fields, converting his place into a productive tract of land. To this he added from time to time until he had eight hundred acres, all well improved. He was one of a

family of seven children, six of whom came to America but only one is now living, Thomas, who resides in Phenix township.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Ward there were born four children. John, the eldest, married Alice Payne and they have two children, Vernon and Morris. Abel D., the second of the family, is represented on another page of this volume. Clara is the wife of Dr. John H. Murphy, living in Geneseo, and Leila resides with her mother.

For forty-four years Mr. and Mrs. Ward traveled life's journey together and were happy in their home life and in rearing their children, who are a credit and honor to their name. In addition to the children who were born unto them, they took to their hearts and home a niece, now Mrs. Mattie Liken, of Geneseo, who in early life was bereft of a mother's love and care. She was always considered as one of their own and the spirit of love and helpfulness thus shown has been beautifully appreciated and reciprocated by her. Mr. and Mrs. Ward continued to reside upon the farm until 1891, when they removed to Geneseo, where they lived retired for fifteen years, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. In 1906, however, the family removed to Boulder, Colorado, that their daughter Leila might attend the University of Colorado, and in 1907 Mr. Ward purchased a home there and continued to reside in Boulder until his death, which occurred on the 22d of May, 1908, when he had reached the age of seventy-one years and nineteen days. In a review of his life it will be remembered that he was a model farmer and one who had intense love for his work. He stood for all that was progressive in agricultural life and sought not only his own success but the general welfare of the community also. In Colorado as elsewhere he made many friends who felt the deepest regret at his passing. His religion was intensely practical and constituted deeds rather than words. His qualities as a friend and neighbor were of the highest and he was generous and tender of heart. He despised hypocrisy and sham, had high ideals in regard to the rights of others and his business methods would put to shame many who professed much more than he. He was not only just but generous, was considerate in his opinions and held to the highest standards of business integrity. Wherever known he was esteemed and honored, but most of all where he was best known.

---

### JOHN MOORE.

John Moore was for many years one of the most prominent and active business men of Kewanee, becoming a resident of the city in 1855 and here continued to make his home until his death, which occurred suddenly in Vicksburg, Mississippi, November 26, 1904, where he had gone to look after his interests in cotton lands in which he had been interested for a number of years. He was born in Pennsylvania, on the 21st of April, 1842, and in 1855, soon after the building of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad through Kewanee, his father, John R. Moore, came west with his family and settled on a farm southeast of the city. There the youth of John Moore was passed in the usual manner of farm lads who divide their time between the work of the fields and



JOHN MOORE



the acquirement of an education. Following his father's death he took a trip through Iowa and other western states, remaining some time in Iowa. Upon his return he became a factor in the commercial circles of Kewanee, opening a general mercantile store upon the present site of the Kewanee National Bank. While he was still proprietor of the store he took up the business of shipping horses to eastern markets and continued in that field of labor throughout his remaining days. For fourteen years he also bought and shipped hogs. Retiring from the field of general merchandise he became the senior member of the firm of Moore, Pumphrey & Company in the conduct of a hardware business, there remaining for about five years. From 1893 until 1896 he was connected with his son Lewis in buying grain at the elevator. In the winter of 1897-8, in connection with A. B. Huckins, of Kewanee, he took a large shipment of horses to London, and thus as the years passed by he won substantial success through the activity, enterprise and perseverance which characterized his business career, so that in his later years he lived somewhat retired. While in Iowa, in 1867, he had been engaged in business at Afton for about a year as a member of the grocery firm of Myers, Hyde & Moore. It was in the following year, 1868, that in connection with his brothers, Robert and Daniel, he purchased the Hopkins' grocery store in Kewanee. While engaged in shipping hogs he was associated a part of the time with A. F. Bigelow and John Zang, and during the remainder of the time was alone. He enjoyed the reputation of being one of the heaviest shippers in the state and he was personally known to all the men in the business at the Chicago stock yards. For many years he shipped on an average of one hundred carloads of hogs annually. In all his business affairs he was thoroughly reliable and his interests were of a nature that contributed to the growth and welfare of the city as well as to individual prosperity.

On the 25th of September, 1867, at Henry, Illinois, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Algenette Merritt, and unto them were born four children: Dr. N. M. Moore, a practicing physician of Rock Island, Illinois; J. Robert, a lawyer of Kewanee; Dr. Lewis A. Moore, a member of the medical profession of Monroe, Wisconsin; and Nettie, the wife of John McLean, of this city.

Notwithstanding the fact that his business interests made heavy demand upon his time and attention, Mr. Moore always found opportunity to cooperate in movements for the public good and served his city and township in many offices of trust and responsibility. He represented his township on the board of supervisors and was a member of the board of trustees of Kewanee for a number of years, part of the time occupying the president's chair. He was assessor of the township and was the incumbent of many other offices to which he was elected by the townspeople. He took pride in performing his public duties well and gave freely of his time and energy when it was demanded. He was one of the organizers of the Kewanee district agricultural board and for thirteen years its efficient secretary. In 1903 he was elected president of the board and it was a source of satisfaction to him that the fair that year was the most successful ever held. In later years he was connected with numerous enterprises, served as a bank director and as a director of other business concerns. He was also an honorary member of the Kewanee Fire Company, with which he had

been actively associated for fourteen years. He laid out the present track at the Kewanee fair grounds and his ideas were adopted in much of the early work in connection with the organization of the association in 1885.

Mr. Moore was long a devoted member of the Masonic fraternity and in his life exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft, being always loyal to its teachings concerning mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. His funeral services were conducted by the Masonic fraternity and the funeral sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. V. Whiting, pastor of the First Baptist church, in which he had long been a devoted member. In November, 1904, he went south and died very suddenly at the Piazza Hotel in Vicksburg on the 26th of that month. His remains were brought back to Kewanee for burial and his was one of the largest funerals ever held in this city, all Kewanee uniting in paying their last tribute of respect to one whom they had long known and honored. One of the local papers said of him: "Mr. Moore was of a genial, social disposition, a man who prized the friendship of his associates and who was willing to make any sacrifice to oblige them. He had his own convictions and was not afraid to express them, so there was no doubt at any time as to where he stood on questions in which he was interested. He was of a rugged, strong nature, not seeking disagreement, but not afraid of a contest of opinions when it seemed inevitable. He admired courage, fairness and integrity wherever found, and he sought to exemplify these qualities in his own life."

---

### SAMUEL J. ARNETT.

For more than forty years Samuel J. Arnett has lived in Henry county and at different periods has been identified with general agricultural pursuits and commercial interests, his capable direction of his business affairs making him one of the substantial and prosperous citizens of Geneseo. His birth occurred in Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois, January 16, 1844. The Arnett family is of French origin and was founded in America by Louis Arnett, the grandfather, who arrived in this country in 1828, settling first near Warren, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farming. He became one of the pioneer residents of Henry county, Illinois, settling in 1837 just across the county line from his son. He took up land from the government and at once began the arduous task of breaking the sod and developing new fields. He served as a teamster in the French war of 1812, prior to his emigration to America. His life in this country was a busy and useful one and his labors constituted an element in the agricultural development and substantial growth of the section in which he lived. He died on the old home place at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife, Mrs. Clarissa Arnett, passed away in 1866 at the age of seventy years. They were the parents of seventeen children, twelve of whom reached years of maturity.

Jacob Arnett, the father of Samuel J. Arnett, was born in France but was reared in Illinois and chose as his life work the occupation with which he became familiar in his boyhood days. It was in 1828 that he arrived in the United

States and after living for about eight years in Warren, Pennsylvania, he became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1836, settling in Portland township before the land was surveyed. He shared in all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, but with the passing years his labors brought good results, and for a long period he was one of the enterprising agriculturists of the community. He took up considerable land and his possessions were therefore quite extensive, for later he made additional purchases. In 1852 he made an overland trip to California with two ox teams of four yokes each and ran a pack train while on the Pacific coast. In 1854 he resumed his farming operations in Whiteside county and in the spring of 1876 he removed to Geneseo where he was engaged in business for a short time but afterward lived retired until his death. He was called to the home beyond in 1900 at the age of eighty-five years while his wife died in 1881 at the age of sixty-six years. They were both devoted members of the German Evangelical association. Mrs. Arnett bore the maiden name of Charlotte Sommers. Her father was a native of Alsace, Germany, while her mother was born in Heidelberg, Germany. On making the long voyage across the Atlantic they settled at Warren, Pennsylvania, where the father followed farming. He died at an advanced age, but his wife passed away in early womanhood. They were the parents of four sons, and their only daughter became Mrs. Jacob Arnett. Of that marriage there were seven children, four sons and three daughters: Lewis C., now living in Prophetstown, Illinois; Samuel J.; Philip S., of Erie, Illinois; Mary, the wife of Andrew Smith, of Geneseo; Albert W., living in Ogallala, Nebraska; Clara A., the wife of Abraham Rapp, of Henry county; and Otilia, the wife of Charles Alber, of Kansas City, Kansas.

On taking up the personal history of Samuel J. Arnett we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known here, measuring at all times up to the full standard of honorable manhood. He was reared in Whiteside county, Illinois, on his father's farm, attending the old time subscription schools of the early days, while later he completed his education in the college at Plainfield, and also in the high school at Warren, Pennsylvania. He remained at home until about the time he attained his majority, and at eighteen years of age he suffered a serious accident in a mowing machine, resulting in the loss of a foot. Following his marriage he took up farming on his own account on a tract of land which he owned in Whiteside county, and subsequently he purchased a farm originally in the possession of his paternal grandfather and has lived in Henry county since 1868. The place comprised two hundred and fifty-seven and one-half acres of rich land which he carefully cultivated until 1875. He then sold the place to his brother-in-law, Abraham Rapp, who is still the owner. At that date Mr. Arnett came to Geneseo and opened a dry goods store which he conducted for five years. He then turned his attention to the agricultural implement business, in which he still continues, and now has a well appointed establishment while his annual sales reach a large and satisfactory figure. His business probity is above question, and his reliable methods insure him a continuance of a liberal patronage.

On the 17th of September, 1865, Mr. Arnett completed his arrangements for having a home of his own in his marriage with Miss Eliza Grossenburg,

who was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, March 20, 1843, and is a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Yost) Grossenburg. Her grandfather, also Samuel Grossenburg, was a native of Switzerland, where he wedded Mary Ann Stopfel and they spent their entire lives in the land of the Alps. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Arnett was Francis T. Yost, a farmer by occupation, who became one of the early settlers of Rock Island county, Illinois. He had crossed the Atlantic from Germany and, taking up his abode in this state, developed and improved a farm upon which he lived to the advanced of eighty-one years. His wife, Mrs. Catharine Yost, died in middle age. Mr. Yost had served under Napoleon in the war that was waged in Alsace-Lorraine and sustained a severe saber slash across the back. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Catharine, the wife of Joseph Hauser; August; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Grossenburg; Solomon; and Rebecca, who married Charles Stamm.

Samuel Grossenburg, the father of Mrs. Arnett, was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, and when twenty years of age came to the United States, locating in Pittsburg. He there worked as a laborer for six months and as a butcher for three and a half years. He afterward went to Warren, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the butchering business and in 1839 he took up his abode near Stoneham, Pennsylvania, in Meade township, Warren county. When he removed to that locality he penetrated an almost trackless wilderness and in the midst of the forest he cleared and developed a farm, his original home there being a log cabin, which was afterward replaced by a fine dwelling. He was a man of great energy and of undaunted enterprise and as the years passed by prospered in his undertakings, becoming the owner of one farm of ninety acres, one of eighty-two, and another of two hundred and forty acres. On the last mentioned tract, in 1866, he built a sawmill which was removed in 1885. On the 19th of January, 1836, he married Elizabeth Yost, who was born in Alsace, Germany, and when eight years of age was brought to America by her parents. This worthy couple had a family of ten children: Samuel, Jr., Eliza A., William H., Jerome C., Albert G., Clara E., Lillie O. and three who died in infancy. The father died September 23, 1885, at the age of seventy-six years, while the mother passed away September 25, 1907, at the age of eighty-nine years and three months.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Arnett were born two daughters and two sons: Minnie C., who died when six and a half months old; Jerome J., who married Amelia Hoeft and is a barber of Geneseo; Glenn W., who wedded Ida Williams and is conducting a barber shop at Silvis, Illinois; and Blanche E., who married Frank F. Pierce, of Geneseo, and has one son, Samuel Dale. The family residence is on North State street, where Mr. Arnett owns a beautiful home. His wife is a member of the Congregational church. Politically he is a republican and has been called to serve in various positions of trust and responsibility. He served as collector in Portland township, Whiteside county, and since coming to this county has been school director, assessor, collector and supervisor and also served for eight years as alderman from the third ward in Geneseo. As a member of the city council he exercised his official prerogatives in support of many measures for the public good and leaves tangible proofs of his loyalty and progressive citizenship. Throughout his entire life he has been a resident

of this portion of the state, interested and active in works of public moment, and displaying in his business life those sterling qualities which make for honorable and substantial success.

---

ROBERT H. ANTES, D. D. S.

The history of the dental profession in Henry county would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent and extended reference to Robert H. Antes, for he is the oldest practitioner in this part of the state. He possesses marked mechanical ingenuity and skill as well as comprehensive knowledge of the scientific side of his chosen calling and for years has done excellent service for the public in professional lines. Because of this he has been accorded a liberal patronage and has always maintained a foremost place among the members of the dental fraternity in Henry county. His birth occurred in Canandaigua, New York, in 1838. His grandfather, William Antes, likewise a native of the Empire state, was of German-English descent. In early life he learned and followed the gunsmith's trade, utilizing it as a source of livelihood for many years. He wedded Miss Mary Barlow, and both died at a very advanced age, Mr. Antes being almost a centenarian at the time of his demise. His son, William Antes, Jr., likewise a native of New York, became a merchant of Canandaigua. He reached the ripe old age of eighty-eight years and was survived by his wife, who passed away at the age of seventy-eight years. She bore the maiden name of Alice Coleman, who was a native of Connecticut. Her father, Eliphalet Coleman, was a Congregational minister and married a Miss Fitch. They, too, were well advanced in years when called to their final rest. Both Mr. and Mrs. William Antes held membership in the Congregational church and were people of the highest respectability, who enjoyed in unqualified measure the confidence and regard of those who knew them. Of their family of six children four reached adult age, namely: Charles, a resident of Rogers Park, a suburb of Chicago; Catharine; Robert H., of this review; and Dr. Henry T.

Dr. Antes was reared in the place of his nativity and after acquiring his early education in the common schools of Canandaigua attended Williams College. He supplemented his literary training by the study of dentistry and was graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Dentistry in Philadelphia. He then located for practice in Canandaigua, New York, but thinking to find still better business opportunities in the middle west, he came to Geneseo in 1864 and has since been in active practice here. He has always maintained a well equipped office, keeping up with the latest improvements known to the profession. His perusal of scientific journals has made him acquainted with the best thought of the dental fraternity and with the work which is being done by its leading representatives. He possesses inventive and mechanical genius of superior order and has invented and perfected a number of practical dental tools, which have a design and finish that only a genius and skilled mechanic can give. He has ever held to high ideals in his professional labors, giving to his patients the benefit

of conscientious service, while in all of his work he has closely conformed to a high standard of professional ethics.

In September, 1864, Dr. Antes was married to Miss Helen Pratt, who was born at Livonia, Livingston county, New York, and is a daughter of George and Sarah Pratt, likewise natives of that state. Dr. and Mrs. Antes hold membership in the Congregational church and are loyal to its teachings and generous in its support. Politically he is a republican. His home on College avenue and First street is one of the nice residences of the city, attractive in all that makes for comfort and for hospitality. Mrs. Antes belongs to the Daughters of the American Revolution. Like her husband, she possesses a social nature and delights in entertaining her many friends in her own home. Dr. Antes possesses marked artistic skill and ability as well as mechanical genius and has done most artistic work in oil, many of his paintings showing superior merit. His nature is one of innate refinement, to which have been added embellishments of education and culture. His keen intellectuality and laudable ambition have long since carried him beyond mediocrity, and he stands among those citizens of whom the community has just reason to be proud.

---

#### DAVID B. WRIGHT.

Journalism in Cambridge has a representative in David B. Wright, the editor and publisher of the Henry County Advocate. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, May 31, 1870, and is the only child of Albert and Ellen (Colquitt) Wright, who were natives of Illinois and Michigan respectively. The former was a son of Albert Wright, Sr., who removed from New York to Illinois about 1840, settling at Mount Pulaski. He had previously had experience as a hotel proprietor and in his new location became host of the Mount Pulaski House, which he continued to manage until his death, while his wife conducted it for many years afterward. The maternal grandfather was William Colquitt, a Canadian by birth and of French descent. For many years he lived near Detroit, Michigan, where he followed the occupation of farming.

Albert Wright, the father of D. B. Wright, engaged principally in the lumber business and spent much of his life in Chicago, although when a young man he was a resident of Mount Pulaski, Illinois. At the time of the Civil war he belonged to the Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry serving throughout the entire period of hostilities in which he did active, and oftentimes hazardous, duty as a scout. He participated in the engagements of Altoona Pass, Missionary Ridge, Gettysburg, Shiloh, the Wilderness and many other of the hard-fought battles of the war. When hostilities had ceased he turned his attention to the lumber trade with which he was connected in large measure up to the time of his death in 1895. His widow still survives him and lives with her son David in Cambridge.

David B. Wright spent the greater part of his youth in Chicago and attended its public schools, while by study at home in the evenings he also largely supplemented his early educational privileges. When only thirteen years of age

he began learning the printer's trade, which he has since followed. He became an expert workman in that line and in 1892 established a job printing office in Chicago, continuing in business there until 1908, when he came to Cambridge and began the publication of the Henry County Advocate, an independent paper. He has succeeded in securing a large circulation and the list of his patrons is constantly increasing. He has conducted a general job printing business and turns out excellent work in that department.

On the 23d of November, 1891, Mr. Wright was united in marriage to Miss Minnie M. King, a daughter of William and Catharine (Cavanaugh) King. Mrs. Wright was born and reared in Chicago while her father was a native of the Isle of Man and her mother of the state of Michigan. Three children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wright: P. Bert, Elmer R., and Inda Ruth. The parents are church members and are known as cooperant factors in many measures relative to the public good. Although following the printing business as a boy, Mr. Wright has for a number of years engaged in preaching as an evangelist and has been a contributor to various papers and magazines for several years. His has been an active and useful life, for he entered the business world at the age of thirteen, printing his first paper at that time.

---

### FRED L. SMITH.

Centuries ago the Greek philosopher, Epicharmus, said: "Earn thy reward; the gods give naught to sloth," and the truth of this admonition has been verified in all the ages which have since run their course. Early realizing this fact, Fred L. Smith resolutely set himself to the task of working his own way upward through diligence and perseverance, with the result that he is now proprietor of one of the leading shoe stores of Geneseo, having a trade that is constantly increasing. He was born in Lafayette, Illinois, June 22, 1862, and comes of an old southern family. His paternal grandfather was a native of Tennessee and became one of the earliest settlers of southern Illinois, taking up his abode at Joliet, where he was a trader. He died when just past middle life, while his wife reached old age. They were the parents of five children, including William Smith, the father of Fred L. Smith. He, too, was a native of Tennessee and became a Methodist minister, connected during the greater part of his pastorate with the Rock River conference. He married Miss Lydia Harrington, a daughter of Mark T. Harrington, who was a native of Vermont and a farmer by occupation. Coming to the middle west, he cast in his lot with the pioneer residents of Geneseo, owning and cultivating a farm on the south edge of the town. He died here when more than ninety years of age and his wife had also traveled far on life's journey when called to her final rest. They were the parents of six children, including Lydia Harrington who, as stated, became the wife of the Rev. William Smith. In his church work the father of our subject was a man of wide information, his consecration and zeal making him a strong creature in the denomination. He passed away in 1890 and is still survived by his widow. They were the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters: Lucretia

F., the wife of Joseph H. Simmons, of Rochester, New York; Lucy J., the wife of John Dunkle, residing near Los Angeles, California; Mary L., the wife of W. B. Foster, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Charles W., of Rockford, Illinois; Mark B., of Los Angeles, California; and Fred L.

Fred L. Smith was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Geneseo. His educational privileges were those afforded by the public-school system of the state, and later he engaged in bookkeeping for the Edward McCulloch Lumber Company at Little River, Kansas. He was next employed by the firm of Fain & Shock, of Sterling, Kansas, and was engaged in the shoe business in Lawrence, Kansas, for a year. He next went to West Superior, Wisconsin, where he engaged in bookkeeping for the Wentworth Heating Company and by the same company was sent to Great Falls, Montana. There he embarked in the same line of business for himself, continuing in the north until 1902, when he returned to Geneseo. The following year he invested his capital in a stock of shoes and now has one of the best equipped shoe stores of the city, carrying a large line of goods, for which he finds a ready sale owing to his reasonable prices, his fair dealing and his earnest efforts to please his patrons.

On the 10th of April, 1895, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Emma E. Wilson, a native of Geneseo and a daughter of I. N. Wilson, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. They have become parents of four children: Maurine, Wilson, Florence and Laurel. Mr. and Mrs. Smith attend the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Smith gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He does not seek nor desire office yet is never remiss in the duties of citizenship and is a cooperant factor in many measures for the public good. He and his family reside on East Park street, and their home is noted for its warm-hearted and generous hospitality. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are widely known here and are greatly esteemed. In his business life Mr. Smith has made steady progress, utilizing each opportunity that has come to hand and at all times conforming to a high standard of commercial ethics.

---

### GEORGE H. RIVENBURGH.

For fifty-six years George H. Rivenburgh has been a resident of Henry county and since 1907 has made his home in Geneseo, where he is living retired after long years of active connection with the farming interests of this part of the state. He has comprehensive knowledge of the history of the county in that he has been an eye witness of many of the changes which have occurred while in many instances he has been an active participant in events which have had bearing upon its annals. He was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, May 18, 1845, and is a son of Hiram and Mary (Burdick) Rivenburgh, the former a native of New York and the latter of the Keystone state. The paternal grandparents were Peter and Ruth Rivenburgh, natives of Pennsylvania. The maternal grandfather was Billings Burdick, a native of Connecticut, whence he removed to Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, and there followed the occupa-



MR. AND MRS. G. H. RIVENBURGH



tion of farming. He wedded Mary Cottrell and both lived to an advanced age. They had nine children but only one survives—Emeline, the widow of John Barker and a resident of Geneseo. Billings Burdick was the son of Billings Burdick, Sr., who came from France with Marquis de Lafayette, served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war and afterward settled in Connecticut. Hiram Rivenburgh, the father, always followed the occupation of farming as a life work and came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1853, at which time he took up his abode in Osco township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of school land. He was an enterprising, energetic and successful business man and as he prospered in his undertakings he added to his farm lands until his possessions aggregated six hundred acres. For about forty-five years he remained in this county and then removed to Peabody, Kansas, where he died at the age of seventy-five years. His wife survived him and passed away at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. Rivenburgh was a member of the Presbyterian church, while his wife was an equally consistent Christian in her relation to the Baptist church. Their family numbered four sons and one daughter, Sophia, the wife of Philip Weidlein, of Kansas City, Missouri; George H., of Geneseo; Clark, deceased; Le Grand, of Santa Fe, New Mexico; and Hiram, who is living in Peabody, Kansas.

George H. Rivenburgh was only eight years of age at the time of the arrival of the family in Henry county and the experiences of farm life early became familiar to him as his youth was passed in the routine work of the fields and in the acquirement of an education in the district schools. He remained at home until he had attained his majority and then located upon a tract of land of his own comprising eighty acres. This he improved and to it added eighty acres but later sold that property and made investment in two hundred and eighty acres in Scott county, Iowa, and fifty acres a mile east of Geneseo. Through the years of his active connection with agricultural interests he followed progressive methods of farming, carefully tilling the soil, rotating his crops and using the latest improved machinery for the plowing, planting and harvesting. Thus as the years passed he won substantial success, and in December, 1907, with a handsome competence acquired through his own labors he retired from active life.

Mr. Rivenburgh was married May 5, 1872, to Miss Almira Newton, a daughter of Zarah and Julia (Rivenburgh) Newton, who were natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively. The former was a son of Benjamin Newton, a native of Connecticut and a farmer by occupation. He married Sarah Covey and they had one son. After her death Mr. Newton married again and had a large family by the second union. He died at an advanced age. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. George H. Rivenburgh was John Rivenburgh, who spent the greater part of his life in Pennsylvania and carried on agricultural pursuits. He married Nellie Dougherty, and both died when well advanced in years. They had four children including Julia, who became Mrs. Newton. It was in the year 1844 that Mr. and Mrs. Zarah Newton removed to Stark county, Illinois, where they spent their remaining days, the former dying at the age of eighty-three years and the latter when seventy-four years of age. Of the eleven children born unto them six reached years of maturity, namely: William; Ade-

line, the wife of Henry Hitchcock, of Nebraska; Sarah, the wife of Andrew Jackson, of Greeley, Colorado; Nellie, the wife of Cornelius Horn, also of Greeley; Almira, the wife of George H. Rivenburgh; and Wilmot, who lives near Toulon, Stark county, Illinois.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rivenburgh has been blessed with four sons and one daughter: Nettie is the wife of Charles S. Young, of Geneseo, and they have two children—Worling R. and Annette; Ward, who is the United States Express agent in Geneseo, married Elsie Rice and they have one son, Charles Henry; Scott, died when ten months old; and Ralph died in infancy as did the first born. Mr. and Mrs. Rivenburgh are members of the Congregational church, and Mr. Rivenburgh gives his political allegiance to the prohibition party. He is an advocate of temperance and morality and in fact of all that is just and right in man's relations with his fellowmen. He stands for truth, for reform and progress and in his own life measures up to the highest standards of honorable manhood.

---

#### H. A. COMBS.

H. A. Combs was formerly actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Henry county for many years, owning a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township, but in January, 1909, he put aside the active work of the fields and has since made his home on Washington street in the village of Osco. His birth occurred in Osco township, this county, on the 17th of September, 1868, his parents being A. J. and Louise (Ringold) Combs, the former a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The year 1866 witnessed the arrival of A. J. Combs in Henry county, this state, and here he carried on general agricultural pursuits until called to his final rest in February, 1897, his remains being interred in Osco township. His widow still survives and now makes her home in Cambridge, Illinois. Mr. Combs of this review is the eldest of three children, his brothers being as follows: Edward, a resident of Osco township, and Joseph, living in Cambridge township.

H. A. Combs obtained his education in the country schools and after putting aside his text-books continued to assist his father in the work of the home farm until he had attained his majority and was married. He was afterward engaged in the operation of a rented farm in Osco township for five and a half years, on the expiration of which period he purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in that township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his time and energies until January, 1909. He then left the farm, which, however, is still in his possession, and took up his abode in the village of Osco, purchasing a commodious and attractive residence on Washington street. He is an expert machinist and has a shop on his home place, where he repairs engines, does plumbing and gas-pipe work, sets up windmills, pumps, etc. Alert, energetic and enterprising, he has won a gratifying measure of prosperity in the conduct of his interests and has long been numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

In 1889 Mr. Combs was joined in wedlock to Miss Carrie Hartley, who was born in Grundy county, Illinois, on the 25th of October, 1870, her parents being J. S. E. and Rose (Butterfield) Hartley. The father, whose birth occurred in Malta, Morgan county, Ohio, in 1839, removed to Grundy county, Illinois, when a young man of twenty years and there turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. His wife, who was born in New Milford, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, in 1847, passed away on the 28th of July, 1901, and lies buried in Gardner, Grundy county, this state. At the time of the Civil war J. S. E. Hartley enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he remained throughout the entire period of hostilities. He went with Sherman on the march to the sea and when the war was ended received an honorable discharge, returning to Grundy county, where he still makes his home. His political allegiance is unflinchingly given to the republican party.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Combs have been born four children, as follows: Irene Louise, whose birth occurred September 6, 1890; Margaret Anna, who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 1st of August, 1895; Hartley William, born April 7, 1904; and Roy Henry, whose natal day was February 10, 1907. All of the children are natives of Osco township and are still under the parental roof.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Combs votes for the men and measures of the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot, supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified. He is now serving his third term in the position of constable and is also special deputy game warden. Fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows, the Yeomen and Rebekah Lodge, his wife being also a member of the last named and a Royal Neighbor. She is likewise a devoted and consistent member of the Episcopal church. Mr. Combs derives much pleasure from his automobile and, owing to his well directed and untiring industry in former years, is now enabled to enjoy many of the comforts and luxuries of life. He has always lived within the borders of this county and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunchest friends.

---

### JAMES NELSON CUMMINGS.

Success at the bar lies before James Nelson Cummings, but those who know him and are familiar with his characteristics believe that it will not be a great while before he attains that success which is the goal of all laudable endeavor. He possesses energy, determination and comprehensive knowledge of the law and since beginning practice in June, 1908, has already won for himself favorable criticism in the work which he has done in the courts. He was born in New York city, July 7, 1873, and was about six years of age when he became a resident of Custer county, Nebraska, arriving there in 1879. He attended the public schools in that locality and also the Lincoln Normal University at Lin-

coln, Nebraska, and in 1892 he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed in both country and city schools of Nebraska for eight years. In 1902 he came to Henry county and was here identified with educational interests, teaching for six years in district No. 50. All through this time he devoted his leisure hours to the study of law under the direction of C. K. Ladd, and in June, 1908, was admitted to the bar and at once entered upon active practice, following his return to Kewanee in November, 1908. It is his purpose to make the general practice of law his life work, and to this end he carefully prepares his cases, examines the points in law and the precedents applicable thereto and is making substantial progress in his chosen profession.

On the 4th of March, 1900, Mr. Cummings was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Gibb, of Gibbon, Nebraska, and they have five children, Anna Lucile, Dorothy Alexandria, Eleanor, Rosalind and Lillian Leona. Mr. Cummings is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his social qualities and genial disposition are such as win for him warm friendship and high regard.

---

#### HENRY R. OTT.

The various lines of merchandising are well represented in Geneseo, and connected with the commercial interests of the city is Henry R. Ott, a harness manufacturer and dealer, who has lived within the borders of the county for more than a half century. He therefore needs no introduction to the readers of this volume who know him as a citizen of worth and a business man of ability and enterprise. He was born in Lake county, Illinois, October 26, 1849, and is one of the ten children of Casper and Mary Elizabeth (Trier) Ott, both of whom were natives of Germany. The former was a son of John Jacob Ott who spent the days of his youth and early manhood in Germany and then sought a home in the new world. He wedded Mary Urban and died six miles west of Highland Park, in Lake county, Illinois, at the venerable age of eighty-three years, while his wife had passed the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey at the time of her demise. Their family included five sons and two daughters. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Ott, died in Lake county, Illinois, at the age of thirty years. His wife, Charlotte Segmueller in her maidenhood, also died in Lake county, when forty years of age. Their family numbered one son and three daughters.

Casper Ott, the father of Henry R. Ott, was a tailor by trade, becoming familiar with that line of business in the land of his nativity. Crossing the Atlantic in 1831, he settled in Warren, Pennsylvania, and in 1837 removed to Lake county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. He was for seventeen years identified with agricultural pursuits there, after which he removed to Henry county, Illinois, in 1854, and began farming in Loraine township, where he resided until 1871. In that year he took up his abode in Geneseo, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1876, when sixty-four years of age. His wife survived him until 1891 and passed away at the age of seventy-four years. They were earnest Christian people identified with the German Evangelical association. In their family were six sons and four daughters but only four are

now living: Casper, who makes his home in Hooppole, Illinois; Henry R.; Adolph; and Sophia, the wife of Louis Sand, of Spokane, Washington.

Henry R. Ott was a little lad of four and a half years when his parents came to this county and upon the home farm he was reared, early becoming familiar with the work of the fields and also with the pleasures in which farm boys usually indulge. His early education, acquired in the district school, was supplemented by study in the Geneseo Seminary, and when seventeen years of age he began learning the harness maker's trade, which he has followed continuously since. For the past twenty-nine years he has been in business for himself, conducting a well equipped shop and enjoying liberal trade.

On the 17th of April, 1872, Mr. Ott was married to Miss Catharine E. Wolf, who was born near Washington, Tazewell county, Illinois, while her parents were Jacob and Margaret (Schaeffer) Wolf, who were natives of Germany. Her father died in 1883, but her mother is still living, making her home with her daughter in Hooppole, Illinois. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ott was blessed with five children, but they lost the first two, Hermann Henry and Arthur, in infancy, while the third son, Ferrel Alonzo, was killed by the cars when thirteen and a half years of age. The youngest child, John Wesley, died at the age of nine years, so that the only surviving member of the family is Ethel M., now the wife of Albert J. Smith, a resident of Colorado, by whom she has four children: Catharine, Ferrel, Clarence and Dwight.

Mr. and Mrs. Ott are people of religious faith. Mr. Ott holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife is allied with the movement known as the Apostolic faith. To the church Mr. Ott is a liberal contributor and is an active worker, teaching the Bible class in the Sunday school. He is one of the most highly respected citizens of Geneseo, his record being at all times in harmony with the principles of honorable and upright manhood. His success in business is undoubtedly largely due to the fact that he has continued in the line of activity in which he embarked as a young tradesman, winning his success by reason of his good work, his perseverance and his honorable business methods.

---

#### ALBERT J. NORDGREN.

Albert J. Nordgren, who now conducts an extensive and profitable trade as a grocery merchant of Galva, was born in Sweden on the 9th of April, 1867, his parents being Nels and Brita (Magnuson) Nordgren, likewise natives of that country. The father, who crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1868, has been a minister of the Swedish Lutheran church for about forty years. After arriving in the United States, he took up his abode in Swedesburg, Iowa, but has preached in Illinois during the greater part of the time, his labors proving an important element in the moral development of the communities where he has followed his holy calling. For the past twenty years he has made his home in Galva. His wife passed away in 1903, at the age of sixty-three years. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, as fol-

lows: Betty, the wife of Eskil Magnuson; Albert J., of this review; Ludwig; Peter E.; Susanna; Ida; Hannah; and Robert.

Albert J. Nordgren was only about a year old when he was brought to the United States by his parents. He lived with his father at the various places where the latter was called to preach and obtained his education in the schools of De Kalb and Woodhull, Illinois. After putting aside his text-books he worked on a farm for several years, or until he had attained his majority, and then began clerking in Kansas City, Kansas. In the spring of 1889, he came to Galva and secured a position as clerk for the firm of Palmer, Walker & Johnson, in whose employ he remained for nearly four years. On the expiration of that period he opened a grocery store in partnership with A. P. Jaderquist and on the 1st of January, 1902, purchased the latter's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He carries a full line of both staple and fancy groceries and his reasonable prices and honorable business dealings have insured him a lucrative and constantly growing patronage. He is likewise the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Cambridge township and is widely recognized as one of the most substantial and enterprising citizens of the county.

On the 28th of September, 1892, Mr. Nordgren was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Dowell, a native of Knoxville, Illinois, and a daughter of J. F. and Anna L. (Appell) Dowell, both of whom were born in Sweden. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nordgren have been born six children, namely: Vincent, Morris, Eugene, Edith, Mildred and Elleda.

Mr. Nordgren gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has capably served his fellow townsmen as a member of the village council for two terms. Both he and his wife are faithful and consistent members of the Lutheran church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful interest. His business interests have been carefully conducted, his duties of citizenship capably performed and at all times he has been true to the obligations and responsibilities that have devolved upon him in every relation of life, making him one of the worthy and much respected residents of his community.

---

### JUDGE EMERY C. GRAVES.

The history of Judge Emery C. Graves constitutes an integral chapter in the record of Geneseo in that he has twice served as mayor of the city, has four times been states attorney, has been very prominent in other lines of public activity and at the present time, is serving for the second term as judge of the circuit court. As a lawyer he stands preeminently among the able members of the bar of his district and his classification for the bench was based upon broad and comprehensive knowledge of the law, combined with a conscientious sense of obligation which he displays in all of his personal relations.

A native of New York, Judge Graves was born at Cherry Creek, Chautauqua county, on the 19th of January, 1853, and is a son of Colvin S. and Martha (Kingsley) Graves, both of whom were natives of New York. The father, who was born in Herkimer, New York, June 28, 1824, a son of Ora and Polly (Fenner)

Graves, was a farmer by occupation and came to Illinois in 1853, settling in Henry county in the fall of the same year. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits in Yorktown until 1866, when he sold out and removed to Geneseo and devoted his time to one business pursuit and another until 1874, when he became a prosperous druggist. He is yet a resident of Geneseo but is now living retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. His wife was born in Ellington, Chautauqua county, New York, February 25, 1824, and was a daughter of Orin Kingsley. The parents of Judge Graves were married in May, 1845. The mother also survives, as do their two children, the elder being a daughter, Mrs. Grace Sweeney.

Judge Graves, following the removal of the family from the Empire state to Illinois, continued his education in the Geneseo high school and then in preparation for a professional career he took up the study of law in the office of the well known law firm of Buckles & Swells, there remaining until the death of the former. Mr. Graves afterward continued his studies in the law office of Judge George E. Waite. He next entered the law department of the University of Wisconsin at Madison and was there graduated. He afterward located for practice in Janesville, Wisconsin, where he remained for six months, when in the fall of 1874, he came to Geneseo, where he has since resided. His ability soon gained him recognition at the bar. He displayed clear and careful analysis in the preparation of his cases, strength and force in argument. His points of attack were well made and his defense was almost invulnerable. Because of the ability which he displayed he was accorded a liberal patronage and as the years have passed he has been called to various offices, several of which have been in the direct line of his profession. He has tried many notable cases in the courts, learning and patience both being elements in his progress. He was four times elected states attorney, being chosen in 1889 to fill a vacancy, after which he was elected for three regular terms. He has also been mayor of the city for two terms and gave to Geneseo a business-like, progressive and beneficial administration, in which he inaugurated various needed reforms and improvements, nor did he fail to check those movements which he deemed inimical to the best interests of the city. In June, 1903, he was called to the bench of the circuit court for a term of six years and in 1909 was reelected, so that his present term will continue through 1915. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party, for he deems its platform of most value to good government.

Judge Graves has been married twice. In October, 1878, he wedded Miss Flora Spurlock, of Kewanee, Illinois, a daughter of Manander Spurlock. She died in May, 1888. The surviving daughter of that marriage, May Graves, now Mrs. Allen N. Bradford, resides at Sterling, Illinois, and is an artist of considerable ability, who was graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago. She possesses great musical ability and artistic talent, being especially proficient in drawing. On the 3d of June, 1896, Mr. Graves was united in marriage to Miss Lulu Godfrey, a daughter of William and Myra (Goodman) Godfrey, both of whom are yet residents of Geneseo, and whose sketch appears elsewhere in this history. In their family were five children: Charles, now a resident of Chicago; Mrs. Graves; Arthur, of Geneseo; Helen; and Bessie. Unto Judge and Mrs. Graves have been born three children but the first two are now deceased, Kathryn having died at the

age of fourteen months, while Godfrey Kingsley died in infancy. The surviving daughter, Gretchen, was born on the 22d of February, 1906. In 1896, Judge Graves erected an elegant residence on First street, in which he and his family are pleasantly located. It is the scene of many delightful social functions and is the abode of a most cordial hospitality.

In his fraternal relations the judge is a prominent Mason. He belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Bonett Chapter, R. A. M., of Rock Island; Evarts Commandery, K. T., of Rock Island; and Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine of Davenport, Iowa. While in all nonprofessional relations he is signally modest and altogether a genial and approachable gentleman, on the bench Judge Graves never forgets his position nor that he has to sustain the dignity of the court. His summing up of a case is always full and comprehensive, clear and direct, and his decisions are the logical conclusions of fact and of the law applicable thereto. His reelection is incontrovertible evidence of the trust reposed in his professional ability and he has the highest regard of all members of the bar. He has commanded the respect and esteem of all who know him and is a gentleman of fine powers and of kindly face as well as of great professional ability and good judgment. In his taste and manner he is simple and unassuming, entirely free from ostentation and display, but his worth is widely recognized by his fellow townsmen who honor him in large measure no less by reason of his professional skill than for his nobility of character.

---

### JOHN M. TAZE.

Many years must needs elapse before Oxford township will cease to feel the loss of John M. Taze, one of the most worthy, substantial and interesting of the men who have dwelt within her borders. He was born September 13, 1832, in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, his parents being Isaac and Margaret J. (Irvin) Taze. The father was born in the north of Ireland and the mother in New York city, but both the Taze and the Irvin families are of Scotch descent. The father died when John M. Taze was only twelve years of age, but the mother lived out a long life of usefulness until her eighty-fifth year. About ten years after the father's demise, the family went to Washington county, Iowa, and lived there for one year previous to coming to Illinois. They engaged in farming near Vermont, in McDonough county, this state. Mrs. Taze, after her husband's death, had upon her shoulders the sole responsibility of the raising of eight children. Jane became Mrs. John Jaynes, of Oxford township, Henry county, both she and her husband now being dead. Margaret married Orson Patterson, of Oxford township, and is deceased. William, also deceased, married before leaving Pennsylvania, but was a resident of Oxford township at the time of his death. Martha, deceased, became Mrs. Alexander McCurdy, of Oxford township. Ann is deceased. John M., the subject of the sketch, is next in order of birth. Elizabeth became Mrs. Festus Cole, whose husband survives her, and is now a resident of Oxford township. The youngest, Irvin by name, died before the family left their home in Pennsylvania. The father had been



JOHN M. TAZE



only a renting farmer, a man of scant means, and he left the family destitute at his death. It was indeed quite frequently a matter of diligence on the part of everybody to keep the wolf from the door. Some of the children came west prospecting before the removal of the main part of the family, and several of them were married before coming to Illinois.

John M. Taze preceded his mother to Illinois by a short time, coming in the spring of 1854. He traveled by boat from Pittsburg down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi river to Cairo, Illinois, and later overland to Washington, Iowa, where several members of the family were already located. There he engaged in farming until 1861, when he went to the far west, traveling over Idaho, Montana and Utah, prospecting for gold. He worked both independently and for a company and had many rare experiences and suffered many hardships, all of which he accepted philosophically and thus gave to the making of a fine character. Among his adventures was his discovery, while prospecting with two companions, of a cave evidently never before entered in the memory of man, which upon exploration showed evidence of occupation by human beings of strange modes of living. He was successful in his mining ventures and remained in the west for five years before rejoining his mother and several other members of the family in Oxford township, this county.

Before going away Mr. Taze had acquired a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land which formed the nucleus of what grew to be a magnificent estate before he died. He invested some of his mining money in land and at once took up agriculture on his return to Illinois. In addition to crop raising he engaged in the stock business, his animals being the finest in Oxford township. When he left the farm to reside in Alpha he owned five hundred and seventy acres of land in Oxford and Clover townships, while in Texas he was the proprietor of seven thousand, six hundred and eighty acres of land. It is thus evident that he had in his control vast resources. In 1901 he built a fine residence in Alpha, where he established his household, and gave up active farming to devote his energies to the supervision of his large land interests. He also assumed banking interests, becoming the owner of the Alpha Exchange Bank. Possessing great talents as an organizer, he brought into existence the Bank of Rio in Knox county, in February, 1903; in 1908 he organized the Peoples Bank of Woodhull; and in March, 1909, he organized the Farmers Bank of Ophiem. Their management consumed a great part of his time and attention until July 1, 1909, when they were all of them sold to a Chicago syndicate.

Mr. Taze was united in marriage September 24, 1874, to Miss Elizabeth S. Rutledge, a daughter of William and Ann (McCurdy) Rutledge, who came from Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in March, 1873, and settled in Oxford township. They had lived in the same neighborhood as the Taze family and the two young people were well acquainted before they left the east. Mr. Rutledge was a farmer by occupation, although as a young man he had been a boatman on the canal from Pittsburg to Youngstown. He is still living at the age of eighty-seven years, but his wife died May 18, 1898. To Mr. Taze and his wife were born three children, William I., Anna Margaret and Jane Ella, the daughters being at home.

Mr. Taze was a loyal adherent of the principles of democracy, but he could not be called active in politics in the sense that he had any desire to be an office holder. He was, nevertheless, a public-spirited man. In 1900 he organized the Alpha Electric Light Company in conjunction with his son and Almon H. Linn, of Cambridge, thus giving Alpha her first lighting plant, and putting another item upon the town's debt of gratitude to him. He was a man of few words but had a keenly analytical mind that grasped the merits of a business proposition instantly. He was a kind and devoted husband and father, his home being his kingdom. Mr. Taze was by birth and belief a Presbyterian, and although not a member of the church, he lived and died a Christian. By circumstances deprived of anything but the scantiest education, he acquired vast knowledge by reading, observation and wide range of travel, of which he was especially fond. His business life, his home life, and his daily intercourse with men, all eloquently speak his praises. His death, which occurred July 12, 1909, produced universal sorrow. He is interred in the Summit Ridge cemetery, near Alpha, where other members of the family lie.

William I. Taze, son of the foregoing, passed his early years upon his father's farm, attended the public school and was graduated from the Alpha high school with its first class, in 1895. This he supplemented with a course in Brown's Business College in Galesburg, in 1897. In the fall of that year he entered the Alpha Exchange Bank, and in a short time his efficiency recommended him to the responsible office of vice president and cashier of the chain of banks organized by his father. He continued in this capacity until the banks were transferred with the Chicago syndicate.

Mr. Taze was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Long of Orion, their union being celebrated January 25, 1899. Mrs. Taze is the daughter of Dr. H. H. and Mary (Jordan) Long, of Orion, who are also the parents of two sons, Donovan L. and Edwin H.

Mr. Taze is a democrat by inheritance and conviction but he is not active in politics. He is a prominent member of Oxford Lodge, No. 367, A. F. & A. M., at New Windsor, and has affiliation with Rio Chapter and Galesburg Commandery. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church as is also his mother and sisters. The son possesses many of the business characteristics of his father and is a young man of much promise.

In the household of Mrs. John M. Taze are her aged father, William Rutledge, and her two daughters, Anna Margaret and Jane Ella. Her home and that of her son are the most elegant and pretentious in Alpha, large and modern throughout, and having an atmosphere of refinement, culture and genuine hospitality.

---

#### ERIC LINDSTRUM.

Eric Lindstrum, a well known and successful farmer, thresher and stock-raiser of Weller township, Henry county, was born at Bishop Hill, Illinois, on the 14th of March, 1863, a son of Eric and Britta Lindstrum. The father, who originally came from Westmanland, Sweden, was one of the Bishop Hill colonists and

here passed away on the 9th of March, 1889, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife, who came to Weller township in 1846, is also deceased, her death occurring on the 28th of December, 1887.

Reared under the parental roof Eric Lindstrum acquired his preliminary education in the public schools and later attended the Western Business College at Galesburg, Illinois. He then took up the study of telegraphy at Ann Arbor, Michigan, after which he worked as assistant agent for what is now the Great Northern Railroad at Beltrami, Minnesota. He was thus engaged for nine months, at the expiration of which period he returned to Bishop Hill and was employed on his father's farm until 1886, when he began operating one of his father's farms in the capacity of renter. His father having died in 1889, the estate was settled in 1891 and the farm upon which he had been residing came to him as his share. This consists of forty-four acres located on section 13, Weller township, and fifty acres in section 18, Galva township, all highly improved and cultivated, and he also owns ten acres of timber land located on section 9, of Weller township. He carries on general farming and for the past ten years has also given considerable attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle, while for the past year he has had much success in raising Ohio Improved Chester White hogs. For twenty-one years he has engaged in threshing, clover hulling and corn shelling, carrying on an extensive business in this line, and has an excellent equipment of first class machinery, owning a full Huber outfit, a Victor clover huller and an Ottawa C corn sheller. He has greatly improved all of the buildings upon the farm and has remodeled his dwelling, which is today a comfortable and attractive home, strictly modern in all of its appointments. He has also erected a fine windmill, having to drill one hundred and twenty feet for the water supply. Everything about the place indicates that he has kept in close touch with the spirit of progress which is today manifest in agricultural lines. He conducts his various enterprises according to up-to-date business methods and through his well directed efforts, close application and careful management has won a most gratifying success which places him among the most progressive and substantial agriculturists and business men of Weller township. The farm, which has been under a good state of cultivation for about sixty years, has become somewhat worn out and he has been expending considerable money toward building up the soil which, however, is naturally rich and fertile and has yielded rich, golden harvests.

It was on the 25th of February, 1886, that Mr. Lindstrum was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Thorell, a daughter of Carl Thorell, and unto this union have been born five children, namely: Vendla E., twenty-two years of age; Hilda, twenty-one years of age; Nettie, who is nineteen years old; Wallace, who passed away on the 30th of June, 1906, at the age of thirteen years, five months; and Arthur, fourteen years old. All are still under the parental roof. Fraternally Mr. Lindstrum is identified with the Grangers and also with the Modern Woodmen of America, while politically he gives his support to the prohibition party, doing all in his power to further the cause of temperance in the community, as he realizes that the liquor traffic is one of the worst evils against which the country today has to contend. He has never been an aspirant for public office, however, preferring to concentrate his energies upon the conduct of his private affairs. Preeminently a business man, his has been a life of continuous activity in which has been

accorded due recognition of honest labor, and his record has been an excellent example of the power of earnest effort, indefatigable energy and untiring perseverance, combined with honorable manhood and high principles.

---

### THEODORE H. BECKSTEIN.

Theodore H. Beckstein is one of the younger merchants of Geneseo, who is seeking his success along modern business lines, placing his dependence upon persistent effort and careful utilization of his opportunities. He is a member of the grocery firm of J. H. O'Bryan & Company, in which connection he is enjoying a large and growing trade. Geneseo numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred November 8, 1877. His parents were John and Mary (Miller) Beckstein, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to America with his parents who settled in Buffalo, New York, and there both the grandfather and grandmother of Mr. Beckstein remained until called to their final rest when well advanced in years. John Beckstein remained in Buffalo for a time and then sought the opportunities, freedom and appreciation of the growing middle west, making his way to Henry county, Illinois. He was a molder by trade and followed that pursuit in Geneseo for a considerable period, but his last days were spent in Aurora. His wife still survives him and now resides in Geneseo. They were at one time members of the Geneseo Lutheran church, but Mrs. Beckstein has since become a member of the Methodist church. She, too, is a native of Germany and came to the United States with her parents who settled in Princeton, Illinois, her father there following the occupation of farming.

Theodore H. Beckstein was reared in Geneseo and at the usual age entered the public schools, where he passed through consecutive grades until he became a high-school student. His education was there completed and he made his initial step in the business world as a clerk in the grocery store of N. O'Bryan. That he proved competent, faithful and reliable is indicated in the fact that in 1900 he was admitted to a partnership, which is now carried on under the firm name of J. H. O'Bryan & Company. They carry a large and complete stock of staple and fancy groceries, and by reason of the tasteful arrangement of the store and the excellent quality of the goods they have gained a liberal and growing patronage which brings them a good profit upon their investment.

On the 14th of October, 1901, Mr. Beckstein was united in marriage to Miss Eva N. Westring a daughter of O. P. and Emma Westring. There is one child of that marriage, Darrell. Mrs. Beckstein was born in Atkinson township, Henry county, Illinois, and her parents were natives of Sweden.

In his political views Mr. Beckstein is a democrat and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but he has no ambition in the line of office seeking. He has a creditable military record as a soldier of the Spanish-American war, having served as a private of Company B, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which did active duty under command of General Miles in Porto Rico. His time and attention are now concentrated upon his business affairs, and that he is prospering is indicated in the fact that aside from his grocery in-

terests he is a stockholder in the Geneseo Savings Bank. He has no false standards of life but knows that earnest and indefatigable labor constitutes the basis of business advancement and thus his diligence in seeking and winning prosperity.

---

### WILLIAM HENRY COLE, M. D.

Dr. William Henry Cole, the dean of the medical profession in Kewanee, who for thirty-six years has been engaged in practice in this city, was born in Tioga, Owego county, New York, October 19, 1836, a son of Cornelius Debois Hasbrouk and Sylvia (Walker) Cole. The father of Dr. Cole was a teacher for some years before taking up the study of medicine, obtaining his professional degree in Geneva, New York, after which he located for practice in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he spent his remaining years. During the war he was surgeon of the One Hundred and Seventy-second Pennsylvania Infantry and at the close of the service the regiment presented him with a watch and chain in token of the high esteem in which they held him and of their appreciation of the excellent professional service which he rendered.

Dr. William Henry Cole, reared in an atmosphere of intelligence and culture, was provided with good educational privileges, pursuing his studies in the Owego Academy and in the Ovid Collegiate Institute. He began teaching in the country schools when seventeen years of age and when a young man of twenty-four years was chosen principal of the public schools of Owego, New York, and remained at their head for nine years, his labors being a potent force for the improvement of educational advantages there. He also filled the position of county superintendent of schools of Tioga county, New York, for three years and the end of his term of office was presented with a full set of silver. At length determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he entered the Buffalo Medical College, and subsequently continued his studies in the Long Island College, at Brooklyn, New York. He was graduated from the latter institution in June, 1873, and came to Kewanee the same year. Here he has continued in practice to the present time, covering a period of thirty-six years, and is still an active and valued representative of the profession. He is certainly the dean of the medical fraternity in Kewanee, and probably of the county. The great majority of men who have passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten put aside the active duties and cares of life, but not so with Dr. Cole for he continues a helpful factor in the world's work through his professional service. Since engaging in active practice he has always read broadly along the line of his professional duties and his investigations and research have kept him in touch with the most advanced thought in the profession.

On coming to Kewanee Dr. Cole joined the Galva District Medical Association, with which he has since been affiliated and has served as president of the society. He also belongs to the Henry County Medical Society and upon the organization of the medical staff of St. Francis Hospital he was made its president. He is likewise one of the organizers of the Kewanee National Bank and from its inception has been one of its directors. Not to know Dr. Cole in Kewanee and

this part of the state is to argue one's self unknown. His professional service has brought him a wide acquaintance and the worth of his labors has gained him the confidence and good will of all, while his close conformity to a high standard of professional ethics has gained him the unqualified respect of his brethren of the medical fraternity.

---

### JONAS H. STAFFORD.

This is the semi-centennial year of Jonas H. Stafford's arrival in Henry county. For five decades he has been a witness of the growth which has occurred and the changes which have been wrought. His contributions to the world's work have been along the line of agricultural pursuits, and although he is now largely living retired he still gives his supervision to farming interests, with which he was long actively and successfully associated. Mr. Stafford was born in Rutland county, Vermont, October 29, 1849, his parents being Benjamin I. and Cornelia U. (Holden) Stafford, both of whom were natives of Vermont and are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Their son, Jonas H. Stafford, was a lad of ten years, when in 1859 he was brought by his parents to Henry county, and upon his father's farm in Colona township he was reared to manhood, making his home there from the spring of 1866 until 1893. He attended the district schools in order to acquaint himself with the elementary branches of English learning and afterward spent three years as a pupil in the public schools of Geneseo. Subsequently he became cashier and bookkeeper in the store of A. P. Fisk, of Moline, Illinois, but later returned to the farm and entered into partnership with his father—a connection that was continued until the latter's death. At that time he began operating the home farm on his own account and so continued until the spring of 1893, when he turned his attention to commercial pursuits. Removing to Geneseo, he purchased the hardware store of Ayers Fisher and a year later gave it to his son Joseph, who continued to conduct the business for three years and then sold out. Mr. Stafford now devotes his attention to his farming interests, for as he has prospered in his undertakings he has made extensive investment in land and is now the owner of eight hundred acres in Rock county, Minnesota, all of which is well improved. He likewise superintends the old home farm, comprising four hundred and eighty acres, for his mother. His own residence is a beautiful home on West Pearl street in Geneseo, where he has lived continuously since 1893.

On the 24th of July, 1876, Mr. Stafford was united in marriage to Miss Ella Frances, a daughter of Calvin and Armilda (Sharp) Frances. Mrs. Stafford was born in this county, her parents coming from Virginia to Illinois and casting in their lot with the early settlers of Henry county. Her paternal grandparents were Jacob and Hettie Frances. The former died, after which his widow became Mrs. Johnson. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Stafford was Jacob Sharp, a native of Kentucky, who became one of the pioneer residents of Colona township, Henry county, Illinois. He married Henrietta Gillenwaters and both lived to old age. They had six children: William, Armilda, Matilda, Charles, Amanda and Sis. On

coming to this county the parents of Mrs. Stafford settled near Coal Valley in Colona township, where the father engaged in farming. He died in Mammoth, Utah, in 1908, at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife passed away in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1902, at the age of sixty-three years. They were the parents of six sons and two daughters: William Henry, Alonza, John, James, Ella A., Stephen A., William and Alice. The eldest son was a soldier of the Civil war, serving as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stafford was blessed with three children: Joseph A., Ethel M. and Bertha E. Bertha is a graduate of the Geneseo high school and is now attending Oxford College, at Oxford, Ohio. Ethel M., is at home. The son, who conducts the North Side livery in Geneseo, married Miss Jennie Farber and they have two living children, Leonore and Wilford. Mrs. Stafford is a member of the Methodist church and is an estimable lady, whose good qualities of heart and mind have won her many friends. Mr. Stafford is an exemplary representative of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and also belongs to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M. Politically he is a republican, and for several years he served as alderman, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many measures for the general good. In his business affairs he has displayed sound judgment and thorough reliability, and the advancing years have chronicled for him a notable and desirable success.

---

#### HARVEY CLINTON McMULLEN, D. D. S.

Dr. Harvey Clinton McMullen, a well known and successful dental practitioner of Cambridge, was born in Franklin, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of January, 1875, his parents being Andrew G. and Helen Elizabeth (Bodine) McMullen, likewise natives of that place. The paternal grandfather, who was of Scotch descent, was also born in the Keystone state and followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He passed away in the state of his nativity when eighty-seven years of age. The death of his wife, who lived to attain the age of sixty-seven years, also occurred in Pennsylvania. Their family numbered three sons and a daughter, namely: Andrew G., Joseph, Samuel and Mary. George Bodine, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was of German descent and a native of Pennsylvania. He likewise followed farming as a means of livelihood. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Bodine, passed away in the Keystone state. They reared a large family of children.

Andrew G. McMullen, the father of Harvey C. McMullen, made his way to this state in the year 1876 and successfully followed merchandising in Kewanee for a number of years. He has capably served in the positions of city assessor and school trustee at Kewanee, where he still makes his home, being one of the respected and worthy residents of the city. Both he and his wife are Congregationalists in religious belief. Unto them were born seven children, five sons and two daughters, four of whom still survive, as follows: Charles, a resident of Brush,

Colorado; Harvey Clinton, of this review; Homer, living in Walla Walla, Washington; and Florence, who is engaged in teaching at Kewanee.

Dr. Harvey C. McMullen was but a year old when brought by his parents to Illinois. He lived in New Windsor, Mercer county, until eleven years of age and then went to Kewanee, where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the public and high schools of that place. Subsequently he spent one year at the University of Illinois and then entered the Chicago Dental College, from which institution he was graduated in 1901. Locating for practice in Bradford, Stark county, Illinois, he there remained for a year and then took up his abode in Cambridge, Henry county, where he has since remained, his skill and ability in the line of his chosen profession having won him an extensive and lucrative practice. The Henry County Dental Society numbers him among its valued members.

On the 25th of March, 1903, Dr. McMullen was united in marriage to Miss Helen Catharine White, a native of Buda, Bureau county. In his political views the Doctor is a stalwart democrat, while fraternally he is identified with Cambridge Lodge, No. 47, A. F. & A. M., Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., and the Elks at Kewanee. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church, with which his wife is also affiliated. They are numbered among the highly esteemed young people of the community and have a host of warm friends.

---

### WILLIAM NELSON MOODY.

William Nelson Moody, one of the honored residents of Clover township, comes of a prominent family and has borne his part in sustaining its reputation. He was born November 15, 1838, a son of John and Betsy (Stockdale) Moody, who removed from Greene county, Pennsylvania, to Morrow county, Ohio, in 1825 soon after their marriage. They cast their lot with the pioneers in that locality, for at that time Ohio was very sparsely settled, the nearest neighbors of the Moody family being nearly thirteen miles away, and Indians were troublesome. Wild game was plentiful, dense forests covered the land and before it could be made productive it was necessary to clear it. Surrounded by these primitive conditions, William Nelson Moody was born and reared to manhood. He attended the country district school, held in a log cabin, and at the same time assisted in the general work of the farm.

In the fall of 1857 he came to Clover township, Henry county, Illinois, where one sister had already located, and he spent the winter with her, returning in the spring of 1858 to his father's home with the full intention of making Henry county his permanent location. On July 29, 1859, he married Angeline Painter, a daughter of Jacob and Ann (Nichols) Painter, farming people of Morrow county. The Painter family never moved to Illinois. During the Civil war which soon followed, Mr. Moody was a member of the National Guard and upon the call of Governor Tod of Ohio to defend Cincinnati and other Ohio river points against the anticipated raid of the Confederate General Kirby Smith, he reported with his company for duty and was stationed at Cleves on



W. N. MOODY AND FAMILY



the Ohio river a few miles below Cincinnati. After a few weeks' service he was mustered out with his command.

After his marriage Mr. Moody engaged in farming in Ohio until the fall of 1862, when he made his anticipated return to Clover township, Henry county, Illinois, and settled upon the farm which has been his home ever since. Mr. and Mrs. Moody have had a family of ten children, seven of whom are living: Emma, who married J. F. S. Philis; Elizabeth, who married George Mahaffey, of Oklahoma; Joseph G., who is a farmer of Clover township; George B., who is a farmer in the vicinity of Cambridge; Louella, who married Wallace Elliott, of Oklahoma; Pernerlietta, who married Prescott Harkness, of Monument, Kansas; Clarence B., who lives in Oklahoma; and Jacob W., John and Laura A., who are deceased. The wife and mother died February 17, 1906, much beloved and widely mourned. On December 19, 1906, Mr. Moody married Hilda Carlson and to this union one child was born, a son, Naaman N.

Mr. Moody has always devoted himself to farming and has been very successful owing to his progressive and enterprising spirit. He is a democrat and a partisan of the old Jeffersonian school but has never been an office seeker. Of strong character and determined in his views, he has always been glad to defend his position upon current questions, and, deeply interested in education, he has served for many years on the board of education. He is a member of Woodhull Lodge, No. 502, A. F. & A. M., in which he has filled all the offices except worshipful master. He was also a charter member of Clover Range, Patrons of Husbandry, and for years was active in its affairs. For many years he has also been very active in the Christian Union church.

Mr. Moody is not the only one of his family to become well known in Clover township, for in 1870 he induced his father and mother and their family to come here and they located on a farm near his own. The father was a democrat in his political views. He and his wife and most of his family were members of the Presbyterian church and were devout believers in its teachings. The father died in May, 1880, his wife having preceded him by several years, and both are buried in the Woodhull cemetery.

The maternal grandmother of our subject belonged to the Harper family which owned and operated Harper's Ferry of Civil war fame, at the time that John Brown was executed. Mr. Moody has quite a number of the picks with which John Brown armed the negroes and he prizes them as relics of an exciting and memorable period in our nation's history.

---

#### FERDINAND F. RIEGER.

Ferdinand F. Rieger, pleasantly situated in Geneseo enjoying a well earned retirement, the fruits of his former toil, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 15, 1860. For more than a half century the family has been represented continuously in Henry county. His grandparents in the paternal line spent their entire lives in Germany. The grandfather was twice married and died at a very old age. Ferdinand Rieger, the father of our subject, was born in Germany and

in his life manifested many of the sterling characteristics of the Teutonic race. He was a cabinet-maker and carpenter and always lived a busy and useful life. He came to America in 1852, when fifteen years of age, and went to Milwaukee, where he had a sister living. There he learned the trade of cabinet-making, following that pursuit for a considerable period. About 1858 he removed to Henry county, Illinois, making his home in Loraine township, where he worked at his trade until his marriage to Miss Margaret Wagner, also a native of Germany. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Wagner, who on coming to the new world took up their abode in Loraine township, Henry county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming. In later years he removed to Geneseo, there spending the evening of his life, passing away at the venerable age of eighty-six years, while his wife was eighty-five years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of four daughters: Margaret, Elizabeth, Catharine and Susan. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Rieger, Sr., they went to Milwaukee, where they lived for two years, and then returned to Henry county, settling in Geneseo. For the past three or four years, however, they have lived at Spring Hill, and on the 4th of June, 1908, they celebrated their golden wedding, surrounded by their children and several grandchildren. They are members of the German Methodist church, and their lives have exemplified the principles of Christianity. Their family numbers three sons and four daughters: Ferdinand F.; William L.; Amelia, the wife of Luther Ballard, of Portland, Illinois; Elizabeth, the wife of Fred Carney, of Spring Hill, Illinois; Charles, living in Sterling, this state; Carrie the wife of Frank Ward, of Sterling; and Mary, the wife of Guy Overholser, of Sterling.

Ferdinand F. Rieger was but an infant when his parents returned to Henry county, and he was therefore reared in Geneseo. Here he began his education as a pupil in the German school, but after three years spent in study there he continued his course in the public schools. When he put aside his text-books he sought to provide for his own living by entering the employ of H. W. Moses in the poultry business. He found this work congenial, won promotions as the result of his capability and fidelity, and that he enjoyed in unlimited measure the confidence and trust of his employer is indicated in the fact that he was later admitted to a partnership. Eventually, in 1891, he purchased the interest of Mr. Moses and conducted the business alone for several years. His trade extended over a wide territory for he had branch houses at Sterling, Milledgeville, Lanark, Geneseo, and elsewhere. His business furnished an excellent market to poultry producers in those parts of the state, and at the same time in conducting his enterprise he met with substantial and continuous success. Year by year witnessed an increase in his business, until with a very handsome competence he retired to enjoy the fruits of his former toil and since 1906 has given his attention only to supervision of his investments.

Mr. Rieger was married on the 20th of March, 1884, to Miss Mary E. Heller, a daughter of David and Catharine (Arnett) Heller. Mrs. Rieger was born in Loraine township. Her mother was from Alsace-Lorraine, while her father was a native of Pennsylvania. They came to this country when it was still a pioneer district, Mrs. Heller arriving in 1837 in company with her parents, Louis and Clara (Shelty) Arnett. Unto Mr. and Mrs. David Heller were born ten chil-

dren: Caroline, Louis, Susanne, Laphenas, Solomon, Samuel, Wesley, Mary E. and two who died in infancy.

In the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rieger are two daughters and one son, Pearl A., Howard E. and Edna May. Prior to his marriage Mr. Rieger resided in Geneseo and afterward established his home in Sterling, Illinois, where he lived for several years. In 1892, however, he returned to Geneseo, and in 1902 he built one of the finest homes of the city. It is of an attractive style of architecture and beautifully and tastefully furnished with all those home adornments which refined taste suggest and wealth can secure. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Fraternal Tribunes.

Politically Mr. Rieger is a republican, stanch in his advocacy of the principles of the party but without desire for office. Up to the time of his retirement he preferred to concentrate his energies upon the conduct and management of a growing business, and in his intelligent appreciation for, and utilization of, opportunities was found the secret of his success. A laudable ambition led him into large undertakings, and his prosperity followed as the natural sequence of persistent and well directed labor. He has become widely known through the extent of his business interests and was regarded as one of the most prominent business men of this portion of the state.

---

#### WILLIAM L. ANDREWS.

William L. Andrews, a farmer and stock-raiser whose home is on section 7, Geneseo township, was born on the farm and in the house which he now occupies, his natal day being October 12, 1868. His parents were James and Mary (Campbell) Andrews, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work. Their family numbered eleven children, one of whom died in infancy, while ten still survive, six of the number being yet residents of Henry county. William L. Andrews, who was the fourth in order of birth, acquired his preliminary education in the country schools and afterward spent some time as a pupil in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Through the periods of vacation his time and energies were devoted to farm work so that he gained comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and of caring for the crops.

Having arrived at years of maturity Mr. Andrews was married on the 6th of January, 1892, to Miss Rosa Gainey, of Carbon Cliff, Rock Island county, Illinois, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Mitchell) Gainey. This union has been blessed with ten children: Ruth C., Bernice M., Chester G., Leslie W., Mary C., James T., William M., Margaret, Conrad and John Asa.

Mr. Andrews began his married life on the farm owned by his father in Colona township and there resided for ten years, after which he took up his abode on the old homestead farm, where he has since remained. He has brought its fields under a high state of cultivation, has added modern improvements and has carried forward the work of general development until the farm is now one of the valuable properties of this part of the state. The soil, naturally rich and arable,

returns a golden tribute for the care and labor bestowed upon it, and for his rich harvests Mr. Andrews finds a ready sale on the market.

In the faith of the democratic party Mr. Andrews was reared and has since been allied with the organization, casting his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland. He has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking but in 1909 was elected a member of the first board of education for the township high school. He furthers progressive measures along educational lines and in fact his influence is ever given for the betterment of public interest. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church and both he and his wife are members thereof, their lives being in strict conformity to its teachings and principles.

---

### NATHANIEL MAYHEW.

Twenty-nine years have come and gone since Nathaniel Mayhew was called to his final rest, yet he is well remembered by the older citizens of Henry county as a representative of the reliable business men of this district through the middle portion of the nineteenth century. He was at different times connected with industrial and commercial interests in Kewanee, Wethersfield and Neponset, and in every relation commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he was brought in contact. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, March 10, 1829, his parents being Nathaniel and Sarah Mayhew, who had removed to Ohio from the state of Maine, having previously lived near Bangor. They made the journey westward with ox-teams, being six months upon the road.

Nathaniel Mayhew spent the first sixteen years of his life in the state of his nativity and then became a resident of Wethersfield, Illinois. He there learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for many years, or until 1860, during which period he was actively identified with building operations in this part of the state, and there are still standing a number of old, substantial structures on which he worked. In 1860, however, he turned his attention to commercial pursuits, establishing a hardware store in Kewanee, which he conducted for six years. He then joined William H. Blish in the purchase of a flour mill at Wethersfield, which they removed to Neponset, conducting business there for four years. The venture was a profitable one, but on account of ill health Mr. Mayhew sold out and retired from active life, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest.

On the 15th of April, 1854, Mr. Mayhew was united in marriage to Miss Eliza M. Wright, a daughter of John and Phoebe Wright, who resided in Orange county, New York, of which state they were natives. The mother's people, the Halsteads, were representatives in the Revolutionary war, while the Wrights sent representatives to the war of 1812. Eliza Wright came to the middle west with her sister, Mrs. Mary White, in the fall of 1850 and they settled on a farm in Henry county four miles east of Kewanee. Mrs. Mayhew was born October 13, 1834, and was therefore a maiden of about sixteen summers when she came to Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mayhew were born six children of whom five are now living: Addie E., the wife of George O. Brown, the president of the First National

Bank at Cozad, Dawson county, Nebraska; Ernest D., who for some years has been a merchant in Kewanee and was formerly postmaster; Milford, who resides in Seattle, Washington, where he is connected with a shipping company; Jacob Y., of the Kewanee Transfer Company; and Winston L., now the wife of Charles A. Demmler, a draughtsman. The death of the husband and father occurred November 27, 1880, and was the occasion of deep regret, not only to his immediate family but to many friends, for in the life of the community he was an active and representative factor, honorable in business and progressive in his citizenship. To his family he was a devoted husband and father and was always loyal in friendship. Mrs. Mayhew yet survives her husband and has always remained true to his memory. She has now passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey and is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Kewanee, her friendship being prized by young and old, rich and poor. She is a member of the Presbyterian church, with which her people have been connected for generations.

---

### PETER H. TAYLOR.

The life record of Peter H. Taylor, now numbered among Geneseo's honored dead, measured up to the full standard of all that is best and most commendable in business life, in citizenship and in social relations. He had many friends in the county who shared with the family in their keen sorrow when he was called from earthly activities.

A native of Vermont, Peter H. Taylor was born in Wardsboro, Windham county, October 28, 1844, his parents being Alfred and Martha (Hammond) Taylor. Both were representatives of old New England families and were natives of the Green Mountain state, continuing to reside among the hills of that district until they came to Illinois in the spring of 1855 and located on the broad prairies of the Mississippi valley. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to Ebenezer Taylor, a native of Massachusetts. He removed to Vermont and his son and namesake, the grandfather of our subject, was born in the latter state. Alfred Taylor was born in Wardsboro, Vermont, in 1806 and there he was reared and spent his early manhood. In 1833 he wedded Martha Hammond, a daughter of Peter Hammond, the centenarian, who died in Geneseo on his one hundred and second birthday. His wife survived him and on the 23d of July, 1895, was stricken with paralysis, and died the following day at the age of eighty-eight years, having been born in Wardsboro, Vermont, in 1807. She was a lady of most beautiful character, which endeared her to all with whom she came in contact.

Peter H. Taylor grew to manhood in Geneseo, where his parents established their home when he was a youth of ten years. When he had arrived at man's estate he was married, on the 30th of January, 1873, to Miss Ella N. Hume, a daughter of Dr. Stephen T. and Permelia (Stewart) Hume, who were pioneers of Geneseo and are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Taylor had been educated in the schools of this city and when he reached adult age turned his attention to farming, later being connected with the com-

mercial interests of the city until 1880. In that year he removed to Grinnell, Iowa, and purchased five hundred and sixty acres of land in that vicinity. He was then engaged in general farming until 1882, but preferring Geneseo as a place of residence he returned to Henry county and here embarked in the grain business, although retaining the ownership of his Iowa land. He became the successor of the firm of Lawbaugh & Dillenbeck, who were among the pioneer grain dealers here. He operated quite extensively in grain, making large annual shipments, and was considered one of the leading and most energetic men of Henry county. Early in life he manifested those traits of character which are indispensable to success in business. He was diligent, persevering, farsighted and ambitious, and as the years passed he prospered in all that he undertook. Moreover, he was a tireless worker and a man of great personal courage and fortitude. He seemed to know almost intuitively when, where and how to make investments and in the management of his business displayed a spirit of capable contrl.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were born two children: Maurice Hume, who died at the age of thirty-one years; and Louise Martha, now the wife of James H. White, an employe in the First National Bank. Unto Mr. and Mrs. White have been born two children, Janet and Margery.

The home life of Mr. Taylor was exemplary in many respects for he was a man of tender and affectionate nature who found his greatest happiness in promoting the welfare of the members of his own household. Socially he was affable and kind and had a smile and good word for every one. When eighteen years of age he joined the Congregational church and continued an active member thereof until his death, which occurred in Geneseo on Saturday morning, February 23, 1895. His record was never that of a sordid business man seeking only financial gain, for his means were liberally used for the benefit of others wherever assistance would be a deed of kindness or an act of mercy. His commercial integrity was never called into question and his life exhibited many splendid traits of honorable, upright manhood. Mrs. Taylor, who still resides in Geneseo, is a lady of education and refinement, held in the highest esteem in Geneseo, where she was reared. There is perhaps no one now living in this district who is better informed concerning the history of the county than she.

---

#### WILLIAM LEWIS MYERS.

The development of a community never depends upon a single individual but upon the cooperation of many. These who figure prominently, however, in the work of public improvement are the business men who, actuated by a spirit of enterprise, carefully manage commercial and industrial interests, and thus contribute to the life and activity of the district. Such a one is William Lewis Myers, who is conducting a furniture store and undertaking establishment in Geneseo. He was born in Yorktown township, Henry county, Illinois, November 8, 1865. His parents were Jeremiah and Mary (Taylor) Myers, natives of Pennsylvania

and of Illinois respectively. The paternal grandfather was also born in the Keystone state and was of German descent. He was a mechanic, possessing considerable natural ability along that line, but later in life he devoted his energies to farming. Removing westward to Illinois in 1843, he settled first at Moline and afterward removed to Eight Mile, a place about ten miles northeast of Geneseo, where he died at the age of seventy-six years. His wife died when past middle life, leaving a family of five children: John, Jacob, Emanuel, Jeremiah and Daniel. The maternal grandfather of our subject was an early settler of southern Illinois, becoming a large landowner and stock shipper and died in that section of the state at an old age.

Jeremiah Myers has always been a farmer, devoting his entire life to the work of tilling the soil up to the time of his retirement from business. He came to Illinois in 1843, settling in Moline, where he followed teaming when a young man. In 1860 he took up his abode in Yorktown township and invested his savings in eighty acres of land, which he at once began to cultivate and improve. Subsequently he sold that property and invested in two hundred acres upon which he resided until the spring of 1879. He then removed to Colona township, where he bought forty-two acres of land and made his home thereon for twenty-three years, or until the fall of 1902, when he resolved permanently to put aside business cares and took up his abode in Geneseo, where he is now living retired. His wife is a member of the Grace Evangelical church. Mr. Myers has held various township offices and has always been loyal and progressive in his interests of citizenship, doing whatever he can for the welfare of the community at large. Unto him and his wife have been born three children: Annette, who died in infancy; William Lewis; and Jesse, who is now living in East Lansing, Michigan.

William L. Myers was reared in Henry county, spending his youthful days upon his father's farm, his responsibilities increasing as the years advanced, while his broadening experience made him well qualified for business cares in later life. His early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by study in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, and he lived at home until he had attained his majority. He then rented land for a year, after which his father assisted him in gaining a start, and he bought a farm of one hundred and eighty-nine acres in Hanna township, whereon he lived until 1902, having in the meantime added twenty acres to the original tract. For years he carefully tilled the soil and in the cultivation of his crops met with fair success, but eventually he rented his farm and removed to Geneseo. However, he still owns the property and derives therefrom a substantial income. In January, 1905, he bought the interest of Clinton F. Luther in the furniture and undertaking business, Hart R. Sweeney owning the other half. This partnership was continued for nine months, at the end of which time Mr. Myers bought Mr. Sweeney's interest and has continued the business alone since that date. He now has a well equipped furniture store, carrying a large and carefully selected line of goods, ranging in value from low-priced to high-priced articles, so that he can meet the demands of a varying trade. His store is attractive in its arrangement, and Mr. Myers employs judicious advertising to increase his business, while the methods that he uses in its conduct are such as recommend him to the further patronage of those who once give him their trade.

On the 26th of January, 1887, Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Miss May Shafer, a daughter of William and Mary (Varnes) Shafer. Mrs. Myers was born in Hanna township and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Myrtle, Jerry, Ethel and Sherman. The religious faith of the parents is indicated by their membership in the Methodist church, in which Mr. Myers is a steward. They are active in various lines of the church work and do all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mr. Myers belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., also to several other fraternities. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. He has always lived in Henry county, and the years chronicle the progress that he has made as he has utilized his opportunities both in agricultural and commercial lines.

---

### THOMAS QUIRK.

Thomas Quirk, who devotes his energies to both farming and carpentering, makes his home on section 31, Cambridge township, where he owns a well improved and productive tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres. His birth occurred on the Isle of Man, on the 22d of July, 1846, his parents being Thomas and Margaret (Cregen) Quirk, who were likewise born there. The paternal grandfather was a native of France and his wife, Mrs. Ager Quirk, was of Scotch birth. Both passed away on the Isle of Man, when well advanced in years. They reared a family of three sons and three daughters, namely: Thomas, William, Paul, Margaret, Essey and Ann.

Thomas Quirk, Sr., the father of him whose name introduces this review, was a veterinary surgeon in early manhood but later turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. His demise occurred on the Isle of Man in 1861, when he had attained the age of fifty-one years. His wife, long surviving him, was about eighty years of age when called to her final rest. They were devout and faithful members of the Methodist church. Their children were seven in number, as follows: Margaret, Nessey, Anna, Thomas, Mary, Elizabeth and William.

Thomas Quirk was reared in the place of his nativity and there acquired his education. In early life he began learning the carpenter's trade and this has claimed his time and energies to some extent throughout his entire business career. In 1868, when a young man of twenty-two years, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and traveled in Illinois and Kentucky for a time. In February, 1869, he came to Henry county, Illinois, and turned his attention to the pursuits of farming and carpentering. He owned some land in Nebraska and in 1886 traded that for a farm of eighty acres in Cambridge township, to which he has since added a tract of similar proportions, so that his holdings now embrace one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land. The property is supplied with all conveniences and accessories necessary for the successful conduct of a farm, and each year he harvests good crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields. In addition to his agricultural in-



THOMAS QUIRK



terests he also follows the trade of carpentering and in both lines of activity has gained a creditable and gratifying degree of prosperity.

On the 12th of August, 1874, Mr. Quirk was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary J. Coldy, a native of Weller township, Henry county, Illinois, and a daughter of Henry and Mary (Fenn) Coldy. She was one of a family of five children, her sisters and brothers being as follows: Emily, Eliza, Theodore and Edward. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Quirk have also been born five children, namely: William C., Frank E., Mary Alice, who is the wife of Fred Sandquist, of Cambridge, and has two children, Denzel and Lawrence; Maggie M. and Mabel.

In his political views Mr. Quirk is independent, supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party affiliation. He has served as a school director for twenty-two years and the cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion. His fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen, and in religious faith both he and his wife are Methodists. He has now been a resident of Henry county for four decades, and he never feels that he has any reason to regret his determination to seek his fortune in America, for he has found a good home here, has met with success in his business undertakings and has gained many friends whose regard and companionship make life pleasant for him.

---

### JOHN AUGUST HORBERG.

John August Horberg, whose record as a public official well entitles him to mention among the representative and valued citizens of Cambridge in Henry county, is now acting as county treasurer. He was born in Kisa, Sweden, March 26, 1867, and is the only child of John and Charlotte (Swanson) Horberg, likewise natives of the same country. The father devoted his life to the occupation of farming and coming to America in 1876 took up his abode in Osco township, Henry county, where he purchased a small farm of ten acres. Later he bought a home in the village of Osco, where he has now lived for the past twenty years. His wife died in the spring of 1897 at the age of sixty-one years in the faith of the Lutheran church, to which John Horberg also belongs.

Under the parental roof John August Horberg spent his youthful days, being a lad of nine years at the time of the emigration of the family to the United States. He then remained upon his father's farm in Osco township and attended the district school, after which he became a high school pupil at Alpha, Illinois. When his course was completed he secured a certificate and engaged in teaching for two years, after which he entered the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and was there graduated with the class of 1896. The succeeding year was again devoted to teaching, at the end of which time he matriculated in Augustina College at Rock Island, Illinois. He was afterward for six years the teacher of the village school at Andover and on withdrawing from educational circles turned his attention to general merchandising in Osco, where he entered into partnership with August Anderson. He is still connected with the business but is now a partner of Charles J. Emroth. The business is capably conducted and

has reached gratifying proportions, owing to the progressive methods and undaunted enterprise of the proprietors. Mr. Horberg gave his attention entirely to its conduct until the fall of 1906 when he was elected county treasurer, entering upon the duties of the office on the 1st Monday of the December, following.

Pleasantly situated in his home life Mr. Horberg was married on the 17th of April, 1907, to Miss Laura A. Larson, who was born in Andover township, this county, while her parents, Charles E. and Eulalia (Swanson) Larson, were both natives of Sweden. Coming to the United States they cast in their lot with the early settlers of Andover township and following the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Larson enlisted for active duty in the Union army. He died in September, 1908, at the age of seventy-three years and is still survived by his wife. Their family numbered four sons and three daughters who are yet living: Frank, Luther, Arthur, Emil, Eva, Laura A. and Amy.

Mr. and Mrs. Horberg hold membership in the Swedish Lutheran church and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has been for some years an active worker in its ranks and has been rewarded by the offices of town clerk and township collector, serving in the former for nine years and in the latter for one year. The capable manner in which he discharged his official duties made him a logical candidate for the office of county treasurer and he is now proving most capable as the custodian of the public funds, his official record and his private life both commending him to the confidence and good will of those with whom he comes in contact.

---

#### ALFRED METCALF HEWLETT.

Thomas Carlyle has said: "Biography is the most interesting as well as the most profitable of all reading." This statement finds its verification in the life record of such men as Alfred Metcalf Hewlett—a man whose life purpose was not the attainment of success although by virtue of his ability, enterprise and careful management he became one of the most successful citizens of central Illinois. He regarded business but as one phase of existence, realizing fully the responsibilities of wealth and his obligation toward his fellowmen. Careful analyzation of his character would indicate perhaps as his strongest motive force a desire to be of service to others, for he regarded this as the central point of Christian teaching, and his Christain faith was a permeating influence of his life.

It was amid comparatively humble surroundings at his parents' home in Jeffersontown, Kentucky, that he was born on the 13th of June, 1849, and with the passing years he reached the fifty-seventh milestone on life's journey. His education was acquired in the schools of his native city and in the Louisville, (Ky.) Educational Institution. He afterward engaged in teaching school for a brief period. The most notable indication which he gave of his strength of character and devotion to principle in his youthful days was when he ran away from home during the latter part of the Civil war to join the Union army.

Although reared on southern soil he believed in the righteousness of the Federal government to hold the Union intact, and going to the front he served until the close of hostilities. After the close of the war he engaged in teaching for a brief period and later entered the employ of Bradstreet, in St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained until 1875, when he came to Kewanee, making this city his home until his demise. Here he entered the employ of his cousin, H. C. Parker, in the capacity of bookkeeper, continuing in that position for some years, after which he went upon the road as a traveling salesman. When a few years had passed he entered the employ of the Western Tube Company as bookkeeper and by reason of the efficiency and ability which he displayed he was promoted successively through intermediate positions until he became secretary and treasurer and eventually vice president of the company. Still higher honors awaited him, however, for two years prior to his death he was chosen to the presidency of the mammoth enterprise which has given Kewanee its present commercial prominence.

It was to this company that Mr. Hewlett came as bookkeeper in 1883 and gradually he acquired an intimate working knowledge of the business which, combined with his diligence and keen foresight, made his services of such value that he was promoted from time to time, eventually reaching the position of chief executive officer. At the time of his death the tube company was employing four thousand people, including the office force and traveling salesmen. The sales annually reached many millions. From 1892 the business developed rapidly, being confined to tubular goods, valves and fittings, its substantial and continuous growth making it in time the largest concern of the kind in the west. Mr. Hewlett had worked his way upward from both executive and operative offices, and he continued in the presidency until his death which occurred December 20, 1907. His steady rise stands in unmistakable proof of his business ability, his power to recognize and utilize opportunities and coordinate forces. He became a recognized power in manufacturing circles in central Illinois and his record commanded the admiration of the business world. There was, however, another side to his business career that might well serve as an example for those who employ large forces of workmen. He regarded each employe as a man and not as a part of some great machine. In this connection Xenophon Caverno, president of the Kewanee Water Supply Company and of the Kewanee Printing & Publishing Company, said: "In these days of great corporations when the individual worker is so often looked on as a machine to be used for grinding out money or success for a man at the top, it is inspiring to find a man like Mr. Hewlett, to whom every employe was a man with body, brain and soul. Most men's motives are doubted, but no man, friend or foe, whether he agreed with him or not, doubts that Mr. Hewlett's chief desire was the welfare of his employes, and, in fact, of every man, woman and child in Kewanee. It was stamped in his genial, kindly face so that he who runs might read. That such a man succeeded and reached the highest business position in Kewanee gives the lie to the assertion that a business conducted on the basis of the golden rule can not succeed. The influence of such a life can never be measured." Words equally commendatory and equally well merited were spoken by other prominent citizens. E. E. Baker, president of the Kewanee Boiler Company, said: "There

is not anything good to be said that Mr. Hewlett did not richly deserve. He was a man of probity, ability and high ideals, one whose public spirit could always be counted upon as one of the community's assets. Such men are too few. We can not afford to lose one of them. Kewanee will ever have reason to remember Mr. Hewlett's life and works most kindly."

In the years of early manhood Mr. Hewlett wedded Miss Maude Elliott, of Kewanee, and only a few years prior to his death they celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Their only child, the Rev. George R. Hewlett, is now the rector of St. John's Episcopal church. In his home Mr. Hewlett was as elsewhere, thoughtful, kind and unselfish, finding his greatest joy in ministering to the happiness of those who constituted his household.

The beautiful life and character which made the name of Alfred M. Hewlett honored wherever he was known had its root in his Christian belief. He was one of the most prominent members of the Baptist church, which he served in an official capacity for many years, while with all the different activities of the church he was closely associated. He was deeply interested in others and a desire to be of help to his fellowmen resulted in his founding the first Ymmiet-drah Society, the motto and creed of which is "Young men make it easy to do right and help,"—the initials of these words forming the name of the society. Several other large societies of young men, the outgrowth of the first, have organized under the same name and have adopted the noble principles laid down by Mr. Hewlett, who was the adviser of the Baptist Society from its organization until his demise. As the result of his initial effort in this direction there are now five hundred young men banded together in an effort to "do right and help." In the Sunday school Mr. Hewlett was a most earnest worker, having a class of more than one hundred young men who listened eagerly to his teachings and found inspiration and encouragement in his example. He was also a prominent worker in the Young Men's Christian Association and when a proposition was made to erect a building for the society he not only made large financial donations thereto but gave the undertaking every other assistance in his power. It was largely through his interest in the new building proposition that the plan was realized. He served for several years as president of the board of trustees and only when he could no longer continue in the office was his successor chosen. Any movement which had for its object the betterment of mankind received his staunchest support and cooperation.

It was natural, therefore, that Mr. Hewlett should become connected with the Masonic fraternity which is based upon the recognition of the fact of universal brotherhood. He belonged to the various Masonic bodies represented in Kewanee and was long secretary of the local lodge. He had the distinction of being the first man to be knighted in Kewanee Commandery, K. T., and his association with Masonry dated from November 6, 1877. He found pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Julius A. Pratt Post, G. A. R. He was a liberal supporter of St. Francis Hospital and was an earnest and enthusiastic working member of the board of education, doing everything in his power to promote the interests of the schools in this city. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. Said one who was long associated with him in business: "He measured up to every requirement. In ability, integrity and

all the other qualities of his well rounded manhood he stood out conspicuously." Another said: "Mr. Hewlett was one of those whom to espouse a cause was to make it his own, and so he was a power in all he undertook." His life was an exponent of integrity, honesty, sincerity and all traits which make for true manhood. Always working for the welfare of the city and its people, his one aim seemed to be to help others. His life was a benediction to those to whom it was given to know him intimately.

---

### JAMES ANDREWS.

In a history of the men whose labors have contributed to public progress in Henry county and who, having lived useful, active and honorable lives, have passed on to their honorable reward, mention should be made of James Andrews, for many years one of the leading farmers of this part of the state. His salient traits of character were such as commended him to the confidence and good will of all who knew him, and his memory is enshrined in the hearts of many with whom he came in contact. He was born at Hartford, in the Western Reserve of Ohio, April 17, 1830, a son of the Rev. Wells and Nancy (Harper) Andrews. His father was one of the pioneer residents of the Reserve, where he located when a youth of seventeen years. He went to that state from Connecticut in 1804 with his parents and five brothers, and, determining to devote his life to the work of the ministry, he afterward became pastor of the Presbyterian church of Hartford, Ohio. He married Nancy Harper, a Virginian by birth, and a sister of Joshua Harper, one of the first and best known settlers of Henry county, Illinois. On leaving Hartford, Rev. Wells Andrews removed to Athens, Ohio, where for several years he occupied a professorship in the university. In 1843 he came to Illinois and purchased a farm near Tremont in Tazewell county, while at the same time he accepted the pastorate of a Congregational church in that locality.

It was upon that farm that James Andrews was reared, receiving thorough training in the work of the fields and coming to love the life to which he devoted his time and energies in his youth. The opportunity for investment at a lower rate than he would have to pay for land in Tazewell county led him to remove to Henry county in 1854 and as his financial resources increased he made wise and judicious investment in farm property. His entire life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and his spirit of enterprise and determination enabled him to place his fields under a high state of cultivation and to carry on the farm work in accordance with the most progressive methods.

On the 26th of March, 1862, Mr. Andrews was united in marriage to Miss Mary Campbell of Geneseo, who still survives him. They became the parents of ten children: Charles, of Steele City, Nebraska; John, of Ottawa, Illinois; William, of Geneseo; James, of Kewanee, Illinois; Robert, of Geneseo; George, of Nebraska; Mrs. Mary B. Young, of Shannon, Illinois; and Jessie, Maude and Wells, all of Geneseo.

The death of Mr. Andrews occurred in Geneseo, March 12, 1908. George W. Shaw, in writing of him said: "Mr. Andrews was heart and soul a farmer. He loved country life and when absent from his farm was always impatient to return. He was a fine specimen of strong and healthy manhood until within a few of the last years of his life, when he retired from his farm to reside in Geneseo. His closing years were clouded by the advance of an incurable disease. During his whole life, however, he was of a cheerful and even jovial disposition and was fond of social enjoyments. He was not only a man diligent and successful in business, but also a reader of good books and a thinker. He loved to discuss public questions from an independent point of view; and as he grew older took less interest in partisan considerations. Independence of thought and action were prominent traits. To these were joined inflexible integrity and great kindness of heart. He was invariable in his attachments, a lover of his family and friends and of all manhood—one of those men who are the strength and hope of a nation. It is not a flower of the valley that has faded but an oak of the forest that is laid low."

---

### JOHN L. BLAIR.

John L. Blair, owning and operating a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on section 18, Kewanee township, likewise devotes considerable attention to stock raising and has met with success in both undertakings. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Henry county, his birth having occurred in Kewanee township on the 31st of August, 1859. His parents, James and Lucy E. (Emerson) Blair, were natives of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Greenbrier county, West Virginia, respectively. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Benjamin and Mary (Hinkley) Emerson, were born in Connecticut and Ohio respectively, the latter's birth occurring in the barracks at Marietta during the Indian war. James Blair, the father of John L. Blair, came to this county in 1854 and took up his abode on a tract of land of ten acres situated north of Kewanee. Subsequently he purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which is now a part of the Blair estate and there carried on his agricultural interests until called to his final rest in 1883, when he had attained the age of fifty-three years. He was widely recognized as one of the substantial and respected residents of the community and his loss was deeply mourned by all who knew him. His widow, who yet survives, lives on the old homestead farm in Kewanee township.

John L. Blair obtained his education in the district schools of this county and when not busy with his text-books he assisted his father in the operation of the home place, thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After the demise of his father he assumed charge of the home farm and about ten years ago extended its boundaries by purchasing a tract of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining, so that the property now embraces three hundred and twenty acres of valuable and productive land on section 18, Kewanee township. In addition to his agricultural interests he likewise raises considerable stock, which branch of his business adds materially to his annual income. When the farm came into his possession the buildings thereon included a

fine two-story residence and a barn and he has since erected another barn, sixty by sixty-four feet, as well as a corn crib, twenty-four by thirty-six feet. Energetic enterprising and progressive, he has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken and has long been numbered among the prosperous and respected citizens of his community.

On the 20th of September, 1893, at Kewanee, Mr. Blair was united in marriage to Miss Frances Scott, a daughter of Mrs. Ann Scott, of Kewanee township. They now have three children, as follows: Florence, who is fourteen years of age and attends the high school at Kewanee; Ellis, nine years old; and Arlo, who is three years of age.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Blair has given his political allegiance to the republican party, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen. He is likewise a devoted and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has acted as one of its trustees for many years. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust confided to his care, Mr. Blair commands the esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the county where his entire life has been spent.

---

#### CLYDE B. TAYLOR.

Clyde B. Taylor who since 1898 has been cashier of the Farmers National Bank at Cambridge, in which connection he has displayed ability in management and in the solution of intricate financial problems, was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, January 16, 1871, being one of the seven sons of Byron E. and Leila A. (Thayer) Taylor, who were natives of New York. The father was reared in the Empire state and when a young man removed to Iowa, settling in the town of Bedford, Chickasaw county, where he was residing at the time of the outbreak of hostilities between the north and south, resulting from the slavery question and its attendant problems of the indissolubility of the Union. At that time he enlisted for active service at the front as a member of Company K, Third Iowa Infantry and remained with the regiment throughout the entire period of the war. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and in a number of the most important battles which led up to the final victory that crowned the Union arms and on three occasions was wounded. After the war he returned to his home in Iowa and was married there. With his bride he soon went to Nebraska, settling on a farm in Butler county, where he engaged in farming for a number of years, and was also prominent in the public affairs of the district, serving for one term as clerk of the district court. Since his retirement from office he has engaged in business and, coming to Cambridge in 1906, now makes his home in this city in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He married Leila A. Thayer, a daughter of Hiram Thayer, one of the pioneer residents of Bradford, Iowa, where he served as postmaster for a number of years. Both he and his wife lived to an old age and reared a family of four sons and four daughters. Both Mr. and Mrs. Byron E. Taylor are consistent and devoted members of the Baptist church, and his political allegiance is given to the

republican party. They are parents of seven sons, namely: Foster T., Melvin B., Walter E., Clyde B., Frank R., Joy B., and Lester A.

Clyde B. Taylor spent his youthful days on his father's farm in Nebraska, until he reached the age of eleven or twelve years, when the family removed to David City, Nebraska, that the father might enter upon the duties of clerk of the court, to which position he had been elected. The son attended the public and high schools of that place and would have graduated had not a cyclone destroyed the high school building and temporarily disorganized the schools. Later he pursued a course in the Omaha Commercial College, after which he returned to David City and accepted the position of bookkeeper in the David City Bank. Subsequently he went to the City National Bank as bookkeeper, occupying that position until 1895, when he came to Cambridge. Here he acted as bookkeeper until 1898, when he became cashier of the Farmers National Bank and in that capacity is proving an active factor in the management of financial interests in Cambridge.

On the 5th of October, 1897, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Kate L. White, a native of this city and a graduate of its high school. She is a daughter of Henry and Harriett (Sims) White. There are three children of this union, Harry F., Leila E. and Clyde B., Jr. The parents are members of the Baptist church, in which Mr. Taylor is serving as deacon, and he is also well known in fraternal circles, belonging to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M.; Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F.; and Cambridge Camp, No. 28, M. W. A., of which he is clerk. His political endorsement is unfalteringly given to the republican party, and his devotion to the general good has been manifest in his acceptable service as village treasurer for twelve years

---

### WILLIAM R. TRACY.

In William R. Tracy, Oxford township finds one of her representative citizens, a man of worth and intelligence. He was born January 26, 1852, in Whistling Grove township, Mercer county, Illinois, his parents being Joab and Mary J. (Coon) Tracy. Both father and mother were natives of Montgomery county, Indiana, where they were born, reared and married. The former's ancestors were Kentucky pioneers, the great-grandfather having been killed by Indians in the Bluegrass state. The family is of Irish descent. The mother's family, the Coons, were Ohio pioneers and of German origin. When young people Mr. Tracy's parents left Indiana for Peoria, Illinois, setting forth the day after their marriage and making the journey in a lumber wagon. They had lived in Peoria only a short time when they decided to go to Mercer county. For three years the father farmed as a renter and then decided upon another change of location, this time taking up his residence in Lynn township, Henry county, in 1855, where he preempted a one hundred and sixty acre farm, where he followed agriculture with no small success. He added to his holdings from time to time until he possessed as much as thirteen hundred acres of land. The original one hundred and sixty acres in Lynn township was obtained from the government



MR. AND MRS. JOAB TRACY



and the patent was signed by President Franklin Pierce. This was never transferred, mortgaged or tax delinquent during the entire life of Mr. Tracy's father. When he died in 1904 the original tract passed to his youngest son, Joab, who is now living upon it. The old homestead is in Lynn township near the town of Ophiem.

Mr. Tracy is of that present day rarity—a large family. There were five sons and five daughters, of whom seven are now living. These are William R., the subject of this sketch; James A., of Chicago; Willard D., of Galesburg; Ellen, now Mrs. Charles Kinsey, of Mercer county; Catherine, now Mrs. John A. Sayre of Rock Island county; Joab, of Lynn township; and Jennie, now Mrs. Dallas D. Petrie, of Lynn township. Those deceased are Rachel, whose husband was Guy D. Fields, of Western township, also deceased; Minnie P., who was unmarried; and Jessie S., of Osco township, who died September 28, 1909. The mother is still living and resides at New Windsor, Mercer county. The father was a Jacksonian democrat, and though ever interested in the public welfare and alert to the signs of the times, he refused all office save that of school director. He was a man who thoroughly understood the importance of good education, and he was given to liberal charity when he knew the object to be deserving. He was an honored and respected citizen and of strong convictions and positive views, whose motto was "live and let live."

William R. Tracy made his home within the parental abode until the attainment of his majority, during the winter months gaining his education in the little red schoolhouse on the hill, and in the summer finding an even more practical training near to nature's heart. This was supplemented by four years attendance at the Prairie Home Academy at Orion. He then proceeded to teach school for the ensuing eight winters, farming as before in the spring and summer. His career as a pedagogue both preceded and followed his marriage in 1873. Having lived for six years after marriage on his father's farm in Lynn township, in the spring of 1879 he decided to become an independent landowner and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Mercer county. There he resided until the spring of 1884, when he removed to his present farm in Oxford township, Henry county. This property is a very large one, consisting of five hundred and thirty-six acres of land, all in one body. It is all tillable land, and all well tiled and under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Tracy engages in general farming and raises sufficient cattle and hogs to consume his grain. The study of soils and the practice of rotation of crops prevent any deterioration in the quality and abundance of his crops. The subject of the sketch has other land interests in addition to those in Oxford township.

In April, 1873, Mr. Tracy was united in marriage with Miss Mary D. Barrett, a daughter of James M. Barrett, her mother, Abigail (Matthews) Barrett, having died when she was an infant. Her father, who was a farmer in Andover township, died several years ago. Mrs. Tracy like her husband was liberally educated and taught school from her sixteenth year until her marriage. Two children have blessed their union: Grace, now Mrs. Alban J. Amlong, resides on a farm adjoining her father's; William R., Jr., is also married and lives on the old homestead, his parents occupying a new and modern house nearby. The bride of William R., Jr., was Miss Eunice Brooks, a daughter of Benjamin F.

and Ellen (Bester) Brooks, both of her parents being now dead. These young people have a daughter named Ruth. Father and son are farming together, the latter being also an advocate of scientific agriculture. He received his education in the district schools and in the schools of New Windsor and later took a course in the Brown Business College at Galesburg. The daughter, Grace, attended Knox College.

Mr. Tracy is a stalwart republican and has been active in public affairs. For a number of years he has been a member of the county central committee of which he is now secretary. He is also a member of the township election board and has frequently been a delegate to county, district and state conventions. His service as a member of the local school board extends over many years. In 1886 he was elected as the Oxford township member of the county board of supervisors and served four years or until 1890. In 1897 he was again elected and served ten years in that capacity. He has given valuable counsel as a public officer and a member of important committees. He is a progressive citizen, always advocating that which is best calculated to advance the best interests of all the people, and he stands high in the opinion of all who know him.

---

#### WILLIAM F. BAILEY.

The life record of William F. Bailey is a credit to the city of his adoption for Galva found in him a progressive merchant, whose methods are reliable and whose enterprise has given to the city one of its chief mercantile establishments, for he is now at the head of the Bailey Dry Goods Company, owners of a well appointed dry-goods and department store. He was born in Circleville, Ohio, June 14, 1844, his parents being William D. and Eliza (Smith) Bailey, natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively. The latter was a daughter of a sea captain, who died, however, when Mrs. Bailey was an infant. He represented one of the oldest American families, being a descendant of Captain John Smith.

William D. Bailey was a printer by trade and for fifty-three years was identified with that business. He established the Des Moines Register, but afterward returned to Pennsylvania, residing successively in Harrisburg, Williamsport and Wellsboro, after which he took up his abode at Bellefonte, where he died when about sixty-three years of age. His wife long survived him and passed away at the age of eighty-four years. They attended the Episcopal church, but Mr. Bailey was not strongly sectarian, being on the contrary a liberal supporter of church work and maintained a seat in every church in town. During the Civil war he went to the front on an emergency call about the time of the battle of Gettysburg. In community affairs he was prominent, serving as registrar and recorder of Tioga county, Pennsylvania, for six years. In antebellum days he was a stanch abolitionist, joined the republican party on its formation to prevent the further extension of slavery and was elected to office on the first republican ticket that was placed in the field in his district. He was a warm personal friend of Horace Greeley and frequently entertained him and others prominent in the political history of the country at his home. Unto him and his wife were born

seven children, two sons and five daughters, namely: William F., of this review; Frances, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Mrs. Mary Elmore, a widow; Adelaide, the wife of W. B. Rankin of Bellefonte, Pennsylvania; Newton S., a United Brethren minister at Bellefonte; and one who died in infancy.

William F. Bailey was reared in Pennsylvania, the family home being established in Harrisburg when he was but six weeks old. There he remained to the age of four years when a removal was made to Wellsboro, where he resided until he reached the age of seventeen. Just before he reached the age of seventeen he offered his services to the government in response to the need for troops to serve in the Union Army. He joined Company H, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves, a regiment whose history is unique and creditable. They were the first troops rushed into Washington following the first battle of Bull Run. Mr. Bailey enlisted on the 22d of April, 1861, and served continuously until April 27, 1865; or for more than four years. He joined the army as a private and was promoted through successive grades to the rank of first lieutenant. He was wounded in the shoulder at the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, December 13, 1862, and again on the 30th of May, 1864, at the battle of Bethesda Church when bullets pierced his foot and his leg. He took part in the battles of Drainsville, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, the ten days' fight in the wilderness, the second battle of Bull Run, Spottsylvania Courthouse, North Ann River and many others of importance together with numerous skirmishes, and after being captured was incarcerated in Libby Prison at Andersonville and at Florence. Few can show as extended military record or one which indicates more strenuous service.

After the war Mr. Bailey studied in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, for six months and then went to Atchison, Kansas, where he remained for a year and a half, engaged in the dry-goods business. He next went to New York city, where he lived for three and a half years and during that period was married in Brooklyn, New York. While in the metropolis he acted as buyer for a syndicate owning a dry-goods store. Later he went to Williamsport, Pennsylvania, where he remained for several years and for three years was proprietor of a store at Rebersburg. At Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, he engaged in the publication of a newspaper for a year and in May, 1879, became a resident of Illinois, at which time he located in Galesburg, there conducting a dry-goods business until 1895, when ill health caused him to seek a change of climate and he went to North Carolina. On the 12th of December, 1898, he came to Galva, where he opened a dry-goods store, which has since been conducted under the name of the Bailey Dry Goods Company. This establishment occupies a large double store room and a number of sales people are employed. The company maintains a high standard in the personnel of the store, in the line of goods carried and in the service rendered to the public and its patronage has continually increased as the result of the reliable business methods of the house and the earnest efforts puts forth to please the patrons.

On the 3d of December, 1868, Mr. Bailey was married to Miss Henrietta Graves, a daughter of Major William Graves. Mrs. Bailey was born amid the far-famed lakes of Killarney and leaving the Emerald isle when a maiden of thirteen summers came to America and was reared in Brooklyn, New York. She traces her ancestry back to the Earl of Vincent and even back to William the

Conqueror. Her parents were natives of England and her father, who served in the war of 1812, was wounded in the knee at the battle of New Orleans. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey have but one daughter, Marcella Henrietta. The parents are members of the Episcopal church, in the work of which they take active and helpful part, Mr. Bailey frequently leading the church services.

His political endorsement is given to the republican party and while residing in Galesburg, he served for one term as alderman. He holds membership in Galva post, G. A. R., and in all his life he has been as loyal to the duties of citizenship and to the interests of the country at large as when he followed the old flag on southern battle fields. While he is one of the more recent additions to the business circles of Galva, he is today regarded as one of the city's most enterprising and progressive merchants and his record is a valuable asset in her commercial history.

---

### FRED C. ZIMMERMAN.

The business activity and enterprise which are the salient factors in the up-building and growth of Geneseo, find a worthy exponent in Fred C. Zimmerman, who is numbered among the leading merchants of the city. He is conducting here a furniture and undertaking business, and his is a well appointed establishment, while the reliability of his business methods entitle him to the success which he is now enjoying. He was born in Geneseo, Illinois, April 7, 1863, and is a son of Daniel F. Zimmerman. The father was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born September 21, 1833, and was a son of Daniel and Magdalene (Lappel) Zimmerman. Daniel F. Zimmerman came to America in 1854 and first located in Chillicothe, Ohio, where he remained for about a year. In 1855 he removed to Chicago and in 1856 became a resident of St. Louis, but soon afterward established his home in Galena, Illinois. In the spring of 1857, he went to Davenport, where he remained until 1861, conducting business in that city for four years and also at Rock Island and Moline. In November, 1861, he arrived in Geneseo and established a furniture and undertaking business, which he managed successfully until shortly before his death, or for a period of forty years. He was thus long one of the most prominent and active of the business men of Geneseo, and his labors were of a character that contributed not only to his individual success, but were an element in the city's growth and development. He lost his factory and machinery by fire in 1869 and there was no insurance upon it. At once he rebuilt, however, and was again prospering, when, in 1872, his store and stock were burned, and he was again a heavy loser. Notwithstanding the fact that he sustained a loss of four thousand dollars above the insurance which he carried, he resolutely set to work to establish again his place in the business circles of the city, soon had his store in readiness for patrons and through energy, perseverance, and capable management he succeeded in again winning substantial success. The dimensions of his store were eighty-two by twenty-six feet and two stories in height. He carried a large and well selected line of goods and not only enjoyed a substantial trade as a dealer in furniture but also was finely equipped for the undertaking business.

On the 3d of September, 1859, Mr. Zimmerman was married in Rock Island, to Miss Kunigunda Tresel, a native of Bavaria. Mr. Zimmerman was a wide reader and a man of scholarly attainments. He loved to talk about his young days in Germany and the scenes with which he became familiar in his youth. He told many interesting tales concerning his boyhood days, when he was a pupil in the gymnasium—an institution of learning equal in character to the high school or college in this country. His father was a skilled mechanic in wood work. Dying just as Daniel finished his school days, the son took up the father's work and continued it successfully. Later he worked at his trade in some of the large cities in Germany and thus gained a knowledge of that country, which enabled him to talk most interestingly concerning the land of his birth. He always manifested the deepest attachment for the land of his adoption and was greatly interested in the welfare and progress of the town, giving aid and assistance to every worthy cause. An upright and honorable man, his worth was appreciated by all who knew him and his death was the occasion of deep regret to many friends. His wife was born in Obernseis, near Bayreuth, Bavaria, Germany, and came to the United States with an elder sister and brother-in-law, Mrs. K. F. Miller, who arrived in Rock Island in 1854. It was in that city in 1859 that she gave her hand in marriage to Daniel Zimmerman, to whom she was ever a faithful wife, while to her children she was a devoted and loving mother, and in the community was known as a true friend.

Fred C. Zimmerman, whose name introduces this review, was born and reared in Geneseo, where he has always made his home. When sixteen years of age he began working in his father's store, where he continued as an employe until the 26th of August, 1905, when he purchased the business which he has since conducted. He now has a well appointed furniture and undertaking establishment, and a liberal patronage, which he well merits, is accorded him.

On the 27th of October, 1887, Mr. Zimmerman was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Stubinger, a daughter of Fred Stubinger. Her father died in Leavenworth, Kansas, in March, 1907, and her mother is still living there. They were the parents of four children: Carrie; William F., of St. Louis; Emma, the wife of H. F. Schmelzer, a resident of Kansas City, Missouri; and Ada, who makes her home in Leavenworth, Kansas.

Fred C. Zimmerman is a worthy representative of one of the early families of Henry county and is now conducting an enterprise which has constituted one of the leading commercial undertakings of the city through many years. He holds to the highest standards of business ethics and his honorable record is a most commendable one.

---

#### ORMAN R. WARNER.

Orman R. Warner, formerly identified with agricultural interests and now the secretary of the Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company, of Kewanee, came to Henry county in September, 1845, and is therefore among its oldest residents in the length of time with which he has been associated with its interests.

He has lived to see remarkable changes here as wild land has been converted into rich fields, while towns and villages have been builded and all of the industrial and commercial interests of the older east have been introduced. In the work of general progress Mr. Warner has borne his part as the years have gone by and his value as a citizen is widely acknowledged. He was born in Canada, on the 22d of March, 1835, and was therefore a youth of ten years when the family home was established in Illinois. His parents were Ralph and Clara Warner, who came from Canada and on reaching their destination settled in Burns township, the father securing eighty acres of wild land from the government. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon this place, but with characteristic energy he began its development and soon converted the tract into rich fields. He continued to carry on farming there until his death, which occurred when he was fifty-eight years of age, while his wife survived to the advanced age of eighty-two years.

Orman R. Warner was educated in the country schools and remained on the farm until twenty-four years of age, during which period he became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and cultivating the crops. About 1869 he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres adjoining his father's original tract of eighty acres and thus started out upon an independent venture as an agriculturist. For a long period he successfully carried on general farming and as his financial resources permitted invested from time to time in land until his property holdings were extensive. He has since sold all but the original eighty acres which his father took up from the government. It is his purpose never to sell this, hoping that it may be handed down from father to son through successive generations.

On the 31st of December, 1857, Mr. Warner was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Cosner, of Burns township, a daughter of Henry and Ann Cosner, who were farming people of that community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner were born three children: Lartie May, now Mrs. H. C. Doty, a resident of Palmyra, Nebraska; Samuel C., a resident farmer of Burns township; and Morton K., who is a merchant of Kewanee.

Mr. Warner continued to reside upon the farm until 1888, when he removed to Kewanee and for six years thereafter lived retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former labor. In 1894, however, he was elected secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, which position he has since filled. He is also a director of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association and is thus prominent in a financial way in connection with important business concerns of the district. Throughout his life he has manifested keen discrimination and sound judgment, combined with unfaltering perseverance, and these qualities have brought him substantial success. The Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, of which he is now secretary, was organized in 1875 with M. B. Potter as president, Levi North, as secretary, and E. M. Vail, as treasurer. They protect against losses by fire and lightning among farmers and in the small towns, making assessments for losses. The business is owned and managed by farmers and retired farmers, and the amount of insurance now in force is one million, eight hundred thousand dollars. The present officers are: presi-

dent, N. W. Tibbetts; vice president, George W. Fuller; secretary, O. R. Warner; treasurer, H. A. Calhoun.

In 1909 Mr. Warner was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who passed away on the 6th of January, of that year. She was an exceptionally good woman, devoted to the welfare and happiness of her family, and her life was characterized by many good deeds to her friends, to the poor and needy and to all with whom she came in contact. Mr. and Mrs. Warner traveled life's journey together for more than half a century, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years went by. At the time of her demise one of her warm friends with whom she had been intimately associated in the work of the church wrote of her:

"Mrs. Warner came to Kewanee to make her home twenty-one years ago. She united with the Methodist Episcopal church and at once identified herself with the work of the Ladies' Aid Society. In the years that have followed, in sickness and health, her interest in the welfare of her church and the work of the Aid Society has never lessened.

"For ten years she was president of this society and so faithfully did she perform the duties of the office, so highly did we value her presence and counsel that at the end of the term of active service she was unanimously elected 'honorary president' of the society, an office she still held at the time of her death. The only criticism we ever heard of her was, 'she knew not how to spare herself.' So earnestly did she desire the success of every enterprise undertaken by the society that many times she carried the burdens of responsibility that should have rested upon younger, stronger shoulders. We knew so well her energy and whole-hearted interest that we have wondered if we had not become too much accustomed to her frail health and perhaps sometimes overtaxed her strength. Yet we know she loved the work and we do not believe she ever felt it burdensome.

"When the word came to us that she had passed away we did not feel that she was lost to us, but only gone before, for as the poet has sweetly said:

'There is no death!

What seems so is transition:

This life of mortal breath

Is but a suburb of life elysian,

Whose portal we call Death.'

"We will miss her presence with us, her voice in the prayer meeting, raised in testimony and prayer we will hear no more, in the home there will be a vacant chair, yet we feel that our loss is her gain. And now that she has gone and we are left to carry on the work, we earnestly desire that a double portion of her spirit may fall upon us.

"If we were asked to sum up her character in two words we would say, 'faithful and true,' and the prayer of our hearts is that we may as faithfully perform the work that is given us to do; may fill as well the niche to which we are assigned; and when the time comes for us to lay down the cares and pleasures of life, may we, each one, as richly deserve to hear the words, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of the Lord.'

'Rest in peace, thou gentle spirit, throned above,  
Souls like thine with God inherit, Life and Love.'"

Mr. Warner has been somewhat active in public affairs, his fellow townsmen calling him to various offices. In 1866-67 he served as collector of Burns township and for seventeen years was its assessor. He was also school director for seventeen years and the cause of education found in him a stalwart champion. In January, 1858, he joined the Methodist Episcopal church, served as a trustee of the congregation in Burns township and upon his removal to Kewanee was made a trustee here. His life has been in strict conformity with his profession and he stands today as one whose many sterling traits have gained for him the high honor and respect which are uniformly accorded him. He well deserves mention in this volume as one of its representative pioneer citizens and his example may well serve as a source of encouragement and emulation to others.

---

### CARL J. LAGER.

Among the business enterprises which are factors in Geneseo's commercial activity is the store of Carl J. Lager. He has for some years successfully conducted business as a dealer in clothing and men's furnishings, and the spirit of modern business enterprise actuates him in all that he does. He was born in Lonsås parish, Östergötland, Sweden, April 23, 1854, and is a son of John P. and Maja Greta (Swensen) Lager, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The father was a tailor by trade and in the year 1871 brought his family to the United States. He settled at Princeton, Illinois, where he lived for four years, and in 1875 he came to Geneseo, where he has since engaged in the tailoring business. His wife died in 1906 at the age of seventy-nine years, and he is now seventy-nine years of age. He was a member of the regular army in Sweden, serving for twenty-three years. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church to which his wife also belongs. They were the parents of four children: Carl J.; Anna L., the widow of William Anderson, now living in Minneapolis; Mary, the wife of Carl J. Hagalin, of Geneseo; and Hilma C., the wife of Rev. John A. Frost, of Minneapolis.

Carl J. Lager was seventeen years of age when he came to the United States with his parents. He had acquired a good common-school education in the schools of his native country and had learned the tailor's trade there. On his arrival in America he worked at farm labor and was employed in other ways for a time, after which he followed his trade for a few years, or until 1880. He then engaged in the sewing-machine business until 1883, after which he accepted a clerkship in a clothing store. Six years were devoted to his duties as a salesman and at the end of that time he took charge of a store for M. Nusbaum & Company, acting as manager of the business for three years. In 1903 he formed a partnership with William A. Offerle and the style of the firm is now Lager, Offerle & Company. During the time that he was managing the business of M. Nusbaum & Company, he and Mr. Offerle, in 1897, purchased the lot on which the

old "red mill" used to stand—one of the landmarks of Geneseo—and there they erected a modern brick building which is known as the Lager & Offerle block. In that they are conducting business, renting out one room for a dry-goods store, for the second story constitutes the Masonic hall. They have a well equipped store, carrying a large line of men's furnishing goods and clothing and their sales reach a gratifying annual figure. Their business methods are reliable, and the enterprise which they manifest has brought them into important relations with the commercial life of the town.

On the 30th of May, 1878, Mr. Lager was married to Miss Dora M. Larson, a daughter of Peter and Anna M. Larson. Mrs. Lager was born in Geneseo, while her parents were natives of Sweden. Her father arrived in 1852, coming from Baros, while the mother, whose home was in the parish of Sand, Wernland, Sweden, came to the United States in 1854. Mr. Larson died in 1898 at the age of seventy-six years and is still survived by his wife. In their family were four daughters: Laura, now the wife of Fred Gotch; Dora M., now Mrs. Lager; Emily; and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Lager had two children, a son and a daughter who died in infancy. They also have an adopted child, Florence Ruth, who married Fred C. Brutsehe, of Coon Rapids, Iowa. The religious views of the parents are indicated by their membership in the Unitarian church. Mr. Lager belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Davenport, Iowa. He also affiliates with Geneseo Lodge, No. 172, I. O. O. F., and Geneseo Encampment, No. 34. He likewise belongs to the Patriarchs Militant, the Uniform Rank, Canton No. 60, of Moline, and he holds the commission of major as a member of the staff of General C. M. Lytle of the Patriarchs Militant, who is commander of the Second Brigade. At the present time he is a representative of the camp and is a past representative of the grand lodge of Odd Fellows in Illinois. He also belongs to Utopia Lodge, No. 310, K. P., of which he is a past representative, and is a charter member of the Improved Order of Red Men. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he is now serving as the supervisor of Geneseo township. Some years ago he acted as alderman of the city from the fourth ward, and at all times he is loyal to the interests of the community, exercising his official prerogatives for the public good but laboring, as well, as a private citizen for the best interests of the town and county at large.

---

#### MORTON K. WARNER.

Morton K. Warner, the junior partner of the firm of Spickler & Warner, dealers in men's furnishing goods in Kewanee, is one of Henry county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Burns township, November 29, 1867. He is a son of O. R. Warner, one of the honored pioneer residents of the county, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. He was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After mastering the preliminary branches of learning in the district schools he con-

tinued his studies in Heding College, at Abingdon, Illinois, and after his college days were over came to Kewanee, where he accepted a clerkship in a clothing and men's furnishing goods store. He was there employed for five years and on the expiration of that period purchased an interest in the business, the firm becoming Huntington, Spickler & Warner in 1893. Upon the death of Mr. Huntington, in 1900, the business continued under the firm style of Spickler & Warner, which has since been maintained. They carry a large and well selected line of clothing and men's furnishing goods, doing a business of creditable proportions. Their trade is constantly growing and their enterprise is such as causes them to be classed with the foremost merchants of the city. Mr. Warner is also vice president of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association and is a man of laudable ambitions, resolute purpose and unfaltering energy—qualities which are enabling him to push steadily forward on the high road of life to the goal of success.

Mr. Warner was united in marriage on the 26th of November, 1890, to Miss Bird Gleason, of Kewanee, a daughter of Lucien P. and Ella Gleason, the former a traveling salesman. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner have been born two children who are yet living, Leslie Harold and Eleanor. They also lost two, Wilma and Wendell. Mr. Warner is a devoted member and active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as trustee and steward for fifteen years. He is a generous contributor to the support of the church and does everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mrs. Warner was also a member and prominent worker in the same church until her death, which occurred July 14, 1909. Fraternally Mr. Warner is connected with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America, but is not more esteemed in those organizations than he is in business and social circles.

---

### JOHN ALBERT LINDSTRUM.

John Albert Lindstrum owns about one hundred and thirty acres of land in Weller township, on which stands one of the finest country homes in this section of Henry county. He was born in the vicinity of Bishop Hill, Henry county, December 28, 1870, a son of Eric and Britta (Olson) Lindstrum, both of whom were natives of Sweden, the former of Westmanland and the latter of Helsingland. The parents emigrated to this country with a colony of their countrymen, all locating in Bishop Hill, where Mr. Lindstrum, who was a carpenter and cabinet-maker by trade, did work along these lines for the colonists. Later he engaged in farming northeast of this village and became very successful, owning at the time of his death five farms, averaging over one hundred acres each. For many years he served as town clerk and as school trustee and filled other public offices of trust and responsibility. He never tried to influence others to cast a vote in his support and yet he seldom was defeated for an office to which he was nominated. He became an influential and prominent citizen of Henry county, and thus his death, which occurred March 9, 1889, was the occasion of deep regret to many friends. The mother is also deceased, her death occurring December 27, 1887.

John Albert Lindstrum at the usual age entered the district schools, wherein he mastered the branches of learning usually taught in such institutions. In his early youth he had a taste for agricultural pursuits and when eighteen years of age put aside his books that he might devote his entire attention to that field of labor. He worked for others for two years and about this time his father died, leaving a large estate to his heirs. John A. of this review, inherited a tract of one hundred and twenty-three acres, located in Weller township, one mile north of Bishop Hill. He at once took charge of the same and in 1902 erected a fine barn thirty-eight by forty-six feet, while in 1905 he erected one of the most modern and finest country homes in Weller township. The house contains thirteen large, light rooms, all of which are nicely furnished, while it is supplied with hot and cold water, hot water heat and many other conveniences and comforts. Mr. Lindstrum purchased six and a quarter acres of land adjoining that which he inherited and it has all been placed in good condition by tiling and the rotation of crops. He raises principally corn and oats and also raises thoroughbred short-horn cattle, having forty head at the present time, in 1909. He also keeps Poland China hogs, having forty head at this time. In all his business affairs he manifests an enterprising and progressive spirit that is always sure to win success.

Mr. Lindstrum was married on the 15th of February, 1893, to Miss Lillie Nystrum, a daughter of Eric Nystrum, a prosperous farmer of Galva township. Four children grace this marriage, as follows: Raymond, who was born November 30, 1894; Vernice, born September 7, 1897; Glenwood, August 11, 1901; and Pearl Anna, whose birth occurred July 30, 1905.

A democrat in his political allegiance, Mr. Lindstrum served as school director two terms but declined to serve longer. He is a member of the Select Knights and in religious faith is a Methodist. He is numbered among the county's successful farmers and is highly esteemed and respected by all with whom he has business or social relations.

---

### ROY G. F. OFFERLE.

Roy G. F. Offerle is well known in Geneseo, where he has spent his entire life, his birth having here occurred on the 3d of December, 1882. He is a son of Albert F and Caroline J. (Dannenfelser) Offerle. His paternal grandfather, George J. Offerle, came to America from Alsace, which was then under the dominion of France, but the family were of German lineage and spoke both the German and the French tongues. George J. Offerle settled in Warren, Pennsylvania, and was there united in marriage to Miss Magdalene Reig, who was also a native of Germany. Removing westward they spent their last days in Geneseo, where both died when more than sixty years of age. They were the parents of nine children who reached years of maturity. Albert F.; Lena, the wife of Philip Rapp; Edward, deceased; Patrick; Belle; Anna, the wife of J. V. Laver; Louis; Freeman; and Hattie, the wife of C. E. Hapgood. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Frederick Dannenfelser, who came from Lorraine and at a very early day settled in Phenix township, Henry county, Illinois. There he built a

log cabin in which he began life in true pioneer style but later improved his farm with good buildings. A number of years afterward he removed to Geneseo where he died at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife was eighty-four years of age at the time of her death. They had a large family; Jacob, deceased; William; Elizabeth, the wife of John O. Freed; Fred; Christina, the wife of F. E. Gresser; Caroline J., who became Mrs. Offerle; and Julia, the wife of S. S. Ott.

Albert F. Offerle, the father of our subject, was a shoemaker of Warren, Pennsylvania, and when a young man came with his parents to Geneseo, where he spent the remainder of his life, saving the last few years, which were passed in Helena, Montana. There he died in the '90s. His widow still survives and is a member of the German Evangelical church, to which Mr. Offerle also belonged. For a short time he was proprietor of a boot and shoe store in Geneseo. In their family were two children, William Albert and Roy G. F.

The younger was reared in Geneseo and lives in the house where he was born. He attended the public and high schools, and after putting aside his text-books he began clerking in the grocery store of George Drehmer, by whom he was employed for six or seven years. He afterward accepted a clerkship in the clothing store of Lager & Offerle, where he has continued to the present time, and he is well known in the business circles of the city.

Politically, Mr. Offerle is a republican, and fraternally he is connected with the Improved Order of Redmen. He lives at home with his mother on Center street and is well known in the social circles of the city, having many warm friends in Geneseo where his entire life has been passed.

---

### ERNEST HARDING.

While still residing on his farm on section 17, Geneseo township, Ernest Harding is practically living a retired life and the rest which he is enjoying is well earned, being the merited reward of his persistent and earnest labor in former years. He was born in Germany July 23, 1841, and is a son of Carl and Henrietta (Otto) Hartung. In later years the orthography of the surname has been changed to its present form.

Ernest Harding was but ten years of age when his parents sailed for America, arriving on the shores of the new world in 1851. Making their way into the interior of the country they settled on a farm in Cook county, Illinois, the father purchasing sixty acres of land which is now comprised in one of the parts of Chicago. Little realizing how valuable the property would one day become he sold it in 1854 and removed to Geneseo, where he followed farming. He also lived for a short time in Rock Island but afterward returned to Geneseo, where he spent the remainder of his days. There were four children in the family, of whom Ernest was the eldest, the others being Fred, who now lives in Rockwell City, Iowa; Amelia, who became the wife of Jacob Arnett and died in Rock Island Illinois; and Mollie, the wife of Mike Long, a resident of Rock Island.

In his youthful days Ernest Harding attended the public schools of Geneseo and also devoted a portion of his time to assisting his father until he had attained

the age of about sixteen or seventeen years. He then began to work as a farm hand and with the sum which he was able to save from his wages purchased a horse. He was a young man of twenty years when in September, 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company C, Ninth Illinois Cavalry. He served as a private and took part in many skirmishes. He continued to the front until the close of hostilities but was never injured, nor was he ever ill in the hospital. On the contrary he was always qualified for duty to which he was most loyal, never faltering in his allegiance to the Stars and Stripes.

After leaving the service Mr. Harding was married to Miss Caroline Helweg, of Dubuque, Iowa, whose acquaintance he had formed while in Rock Island where her father was serving as minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. Four children have graced this union: Charles E., Louis T., Alice and Benjamin P.

Following his marriage Mr. Harding embarked in business as a grocer at Muscatine, Iowa, where he remained from 1866 until 1869. He next took up his abode upon a farm belonging to his father-in-law at Charles City, Iowa, where he remained until 1882 when he removed to Dexter, Minnesota, and became foreman of a large farm. It was while living there that he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. After a year spent in Minnesota he returned to Geneseo and later was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Rettinger, nee Waggoner. Not long afterward his wife purchased the present home of seventy-two acres situated on section 17, Geneseo township, where they now reside. They are both highly esteemed throughout the community and have an extensive circle of warm friends.

In his political views Mr. Harding is a republican, and he cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, since which time he has been unfaltering in his allegiance to the party, although never an office seeker. He belongs to Jenkins Post, G. A. R. and enjoys its camp fires. The activity which he has displayed in his business affairs now enables him to live retired, while the salient traits of his character have won him the esteem and respect which are uniformly accorded him.

---

#### H. NELSON HEFLIN, M. D.

Dr. H. Nelson Heflin, a worthy and successful representative of the professional interests of Henry county, has been engaged in the practice of medicine at Kewanee since November, 1895. He was born on a farm in Allamakee county, Iowa, September 17, 1864, his parents being Ezekiel and Eleanor (Moore) Heflin. The father was identified with general agricultural pursuits in early life but afterward became a minister of the Christian church.

Dr. Heflin obtained his education in the common schools and remained on the home farm until seventeen years of age, when he entered the employ of a creamery company at Austin, Minnesota, there remaining for three years. Subsequently he was identified with the Minnesota Creamery Association as superintendent of their various creameries until 1892, when he entered the medical department of Hamline University, having previously read medicine under the

direction of his brother, Dr. E. Henry Heflin. Following his graduation from that institution in 1895 he located for practice at Minneapolis, but at the end of a year came to Kewanee and has here remained to the present time. He is a member of the Galva District Medical Society, the Henry County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and has served as secretary of the first two organizations named. He has likewise acted as secretary and president of the Physicians Club at Kewanee, of which he is a valued member. He was one of the organizers of the medical and surgical staff of St. Francis Hospital and has since served as its secretary. Upon the organization of the Kewanee Dairy and Food Commission he was made its president, having been the father of the ordinance which resulted in the establishment of the commission on the 1st of January, 1909. He is medical examiner for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York and also for the Royal Arcanum.

On the 28th of June, 1905, Dr. Heflin was united in marriage to Miss Ilma M. Kerr, of Kewanee, Illinois, a daughter of Edwin and Anna Kerr. Fraternally the doctor is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Royal Arcanum, of which he was past regent. He also belongs to the Kewanee Club, and his wife is a devoted and consistent member of the Episcopalian church. He is a man of easy dignity, frank and cordial in address and possessing that confidence and courage which rightly come from conscious personal ability, a right conception of things and an habitual regard for what is best in the exercise of human activities.

---

### WILLIAM GODFREY.

William Godfrey, now engaged in business as a live-stock dealer at Geneseo, is known as one of the leading citizens of this part of the state, manifesting the same loyalty and interest in public affairs and in matters of citizenship that he displayed when he served as a soldier of the Union army on the battlefields of the south. He was born in Kent, England, February 11, 1842, and is a son of Richard and Ann (Amos) Godfrey, who were also natives of England. The father was employed in various ways in that country and died in England in 1857. His wife passed away in 1847, and William Godfrey is now the only survivor of their family of six children. The father also had six children by a previous marriage, but only one is living—Mrs. Charlotte Hastings, who resides in Kent, England.

When a lad of ten summers William Godfrey left his native country and came to America with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. John Amos, who settled near Troy, Rensselaer county, New York, where they lived for two years. They then came to Henry county, Illinois, in May, 1854, and Mr. Amos followed the mason's trade in Geneseo. In their family the nephew was reared, acquiring his education in the public schools. He learned the butcher's trade when in his teens and followed the business for three years before he enlisted for service in the Civil war. Responding to the country's call he was assigned to duty with Company I, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for about eighteen months. He joined the army as a private, was promoted to or-

derly sergeant and was afterward mustered out as second lieutenant. He had been transferred to the Sixty-fifth Illinois when he received his promotion, and he did active duty in the Atlanta campaign in Tennessee and in North Carolina, participating in a number of the important battles of the war and in many skirmishes. His military record was at all times creditable, being characterized by unflinching loyalty to duty.

When the country no longer needed his aid Mr. Godfrey returned to Geneseo and resumed the butchering business, in which he continued for about twenty years. In the meantime he also became interested in live-stock dealings, to which he now gives his undivided attention, and as he is an excellent judge of stock he has been enabled to make judicious investments and profitable sales. He is now recognized as one of the leading live-stock dealers of this part of the state.

Mr. Godfrey was married September 10, 1868, to Miss Myra J. Goodman, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Goodman and a native of Pennsylvania: Unto this marriage have been born four sons and four daughters: Charles M., who wedded Elizabeth Mohr and has two children, Marjorie and Virginia, is a stock salesman in the Chicago stock yards and lives in Englewood; Lulu M., is the wife of Judge Emery C. Graves of Geneseo, and they have one daughter, Gretchen; Harry M. died at the age of twenty-four years; Helen M. is occupying a position as stenographer; Bessie M. is employed as a clerk in Geneseo; Gertrude M. is deceased; John M. died at the age of seventeen months; and Arthur, who married Miss Ollie Sommers of Englewood, is engaged in the stock business with his father.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey are members of the Congregational church, and their position in social circles is a prominent one. They occupy a beautiful home on West First street, and its hospitality is most generous. Mr. Godfrey maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army Post and has always given his political allegiance to the republican party, which was the defense of the Union in the dark days of the Civil war. On its ticket he was elected to the office of alderman, in which he represented the second ward. He is one of Geneseo's respected and progressive citizens, well deserving mention with the representative residents of Henry county.

---

#### FRANK H. GREENE.

On the roster of city officials in Geneseo appears the name of Frank H. Greene. He is filling the position of postmaster, and the record which he is making is one of capable service characterized by prompt and efficient discharge of the duties that devolve upon him in this connection. He was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, May 28, 1857, and is a son of Thomas and Julia (Graves) Greene, both of whom were natives of New York. Both parents were representatives of families who were connected with the farming interests of that state. The maternal grandmother, however, spent her last days in Geneseo, where she died at an advanced age. Thomas Greene was a carpenter in early manhood, although born and reared upon the farm. In early life he came to Illinois, settling in White-

side county, after making the trip down the Rock River in a skiff. About 1863 he arrived in Henry county and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Edford township. To this he added one hundred acres, and although he took up his abode in Geneseo he managed his farm which was pleasantly and conveniently situated about three miles from the town. His carefully directed business affairs won him substantial success and he enjoyed in the fullest degree the confidence and good will of those with whom he was associated. Both he and his wife were members of the Congregational church. Their family numbered but two children, the daughter being Helen, now the wife of C. F. Young, of Chicago.

Frank H. Greene has lived in Geneseo from the age of six years and, entering the public schools, passed through consecutive grades and was a pupil in the high school. He made his initial step in the business world as a clerk in the dry-goods store of Mr. Van Valkenburg, with whom he remained for eight years. He was afterward with Peterson Brothers for three and a half years and his ambition to engage in business on his own account led to the careful husbanding of his resources until his capital was sufficient to enable him to purchase a stock of groceries. He then conducted a store of his own for several years but put aside commercial pursuits to accept public office and is now serving the last year of his second term as postmaster. He has been most careful and diligent in performing the duties of the position, and his record has been altogether satisfactory to the general public.

In June, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Greene and Mrs. Mary E. Davison, the widow of Theodore Davison and a daughter of Hushai Thomas. By her former marriage she had one child, Mary Louise Davison. Mr. and Mrs. Greene are members of the Congregational church, and in Masonry he has attained to high rank, belonging to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He is likewise connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and where matters of general interest are involved he is always found on the side of right, justice, truth and progress. His fellow citizens know him as a man who is to be depended upon in any vital situation, and the good qualities that he has manifested have won for him the warm regard of those with whom he has been associated.

---

#### FREDERICK W. WEINRICH.

One of the prosperous farmers and successful stockmen of Henry county is Frederick W. Weinrich, who carries on operations on his farm of one hundred and twenty-four acres on section 6, Munson township. He was born in Geneseo township, June 15, 1862, and is the eldest son of William F. and Christina (Kipping) Weinrich. The parents were born, reared and married in Germany and came to America on their wedding journey in 1852. William F. Weinrich had received a limited education in the land of his birth and had learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for about ten years after his coming here, during which period he made his home in Geneseo. He then took up agricul-



F. W. WEINRICH



tural pursuits, to which he devoted his attention from 1862 until 1893, when he retired from active labor. He owned a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which had been broken when he purchased it, but on which he added many valuable improvements, making it one of the most desirable properties of its size in his locality. In connection with general farming he was interested in the stock business, but gave that up also when in 1893 he laid aside the cares of life and retired to Geneseo. He was a supporter of the democratic party, but never took an active part in political affairs. He attended the Methodist church in Geneseo, and his life, ordered by high standards, won him the respect and esteem of all who knew him. In his family were nine children, all of whom reached maturity: Emma, who is now the widow of Gottlieb Zimmerman and lives in Geneseo; Clara, who died unmarried at the age of thirty years; Christina, who lives in Geneseo; Frederick W., the subject of this sketch; William F., a hardware merchant of Cambridge, Illinois; Matilda, the wife of Mathew O'Connell, of Geneseo; Edward, who is extensively engaged in the stock business on the old home farm; Charles, who was a printer by trade and died in 1897; Herman, who is engaged in the poultry and commission business in Cambridge, Illinois.

Frederick W. Weinrich received his education in the district school near his boyhood home, and he grew to manhood upon the farm, which, as the eldest in the family, he assisted his father in cultivating as soon as he was large enough to handle a plow. On attaining his majority he embarked in business for himself as a stock dealer on a small scale. He gave his attention first to Poland hogs, which he raised for sale and breeding purposes. Although still a young man he is one of the oldest dealers in his community, and his stock is of high grade and very valuable. Every year he exhibits his animals at the fairs and has thus far received first prize on his hogs. He has also extensively engaged in feeding cattle for the market, and his barns with their well filled stalls give evidence of his practical skill in this branch of his undertakings. In connection with his brother Edward, he is interested in the raising of full blooded draft horses, and polled Durham cattle have recently been added to high grade stock they own. These two brothers, in company with George Weinrich, under the firm title Fred, Ed & George Weinrich, are importing Percheron stallions from France and have large sale and breeding stable in Geneseo. In short Mr. Weinrich has engaged in almost every branch of the stock business; in every case he has devoted himself to the raising of animals of high grade; and has met with pronounced success, so that a brilliant future should be in store for him, and he should become one of the leading stockmen of the county. From 1888 to 1894 he rented land in Geneseo township, and in the latter year bought the one hundred and twenty-four acres in Munson township he now occupies. On this he has made a number of valuable improvements, including the erection of additional buildings for the accommodation of his constantly increasing business.

In 1888 Mr. Weinrich was united in marriage to Miss Otilie Bartz, who was born in Germany in 1869, but in 1871 was brought to the United States by her parents, John and Anna (Fritz) Bartz. The father died in Edford township, this county, in 1900, and the mother followed him to the grave in October,

1903. Mrs. Weinrich died December 21, 1902. She was the eldest of eleven children. The others were: Bertha, who died at the age of three years in Germany; Albert, who died in Geneseo when a child; Gustaf, a farmer of Edford township; Hulda, the wife of B. Woodruff; Emma, unmarried, who is now in the home of Mr. Weinrich, caring for the household; Edward, who is married and lives on the home farm in Edford township; Mary, who married James Maloney and is now deceased; Minnie, the wife of Clemons Heineman, of Springfield, Illinois; John, unmarried, who lives in Prophetstown, Whiteside county, Illinois; and Otto, deceased.

Mr. Weinrich and his wife were liberal supporters of the Methodist church. Politically his sympathies are with the republican party, but he has not taken an active part in public affairs. Ambitious and hardworking he requires only time to attain the unqualified success his friends predict for him.

---

### PHILIP BURR KEELER.

Philip Burr Keeler, clerk of the circuit court, with office in Cambridge, was born in Clarendon, New York, August 27, 1843, his parents being Ira B. and Clarissa Harlow (Foley) Keeler, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. His grandfather in the paternal line came from England and settled near Saratoga Springs, New York, where his remaining days were passed. He is numbered among the heroes of the Revolutionary war, having served for six years to attain American independence.

Ira B. Keeler was a carpenter, cabinet-maker and bridge-builder and in all those lines displayed excellent workmanship. He was also active in the public life of the community, belonged to the state militia, filled the office of school director and was likewise a member of the board of supervisors. His active and helpful cooperation in many public movements made him a citizen of worth. He died in Clarendon in 1851 at the age of fifty-two years and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in Scottsville, Kansas, at the age of eighty-two years. Both were members of the Universalist church. In their family were the following children who reached years of maturity: Harriet B., who married Clark Glidden; Rufus; Delia, deceased; Josiah; Elizabeth V., who married J. W. Eddy, an old resident of Kewanee; Mary E., wife of Andrew Wood; Viola M., the deceased wife of Lewis Wilson; and Philip B.

Philip B. Keeler resided at Clarendon, New York, until fifteen years of age, when he came to Henry county, Illinois, and has since made his home in Kewanee. His early education was acquired in the schools of his native village, and was continued in the high school at Kewanee, while subsequently he pursued a commercial course in Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. In early life he acquainted himself with the jeweler's trade and also with the machinist's trade, following both for a number of years. Having lost his right arm while working in the machine shop, he then returned to the jeweler business, entering the jewelry and music store of his brother-in-law, J. W. Eddy. They formed a partnership in the music department under the firm style of Eddy & Keeler, selling musical

instruments and handling musical merchandise. Mr. Keeler continued in that line of business until 1896, when he was elected clerk of the circuit court and his capability and fidelity in office are fully attested in the fact that he has now served for thirteen years in that position, having been elected for the fourth successive term. He has also been a member of the board of supervisors for more than fifteen years and was chairman of the board for five or six years. During his connection therewith he instituted several new plans for the benefit of the community and supported many others which had for their object the betterment of conditions at large.

On the 20th of December, 1866, Mr. Keeler was united in marriage to Miss Mary Frances Whittemore, a daughter of Caleb and Maria (Russell) Whittemore. Mrs. Keeler was born in Peoria, Illinois, while her father is a native of Connecticut. He is a mechanic and put in the first water works in Peoria where he is still living. He yet devotes a number of hours each day to work although he has now attained the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife has passed away. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Keeler have been born two sons: Rufus W., who is night electrician for the San Francisco Examiner; and Philip Burr, who is an artist and is now in the Azore Islands, taking pictures for a large photographic concern in San Francisco.

Mr. Keeler is a member of Kewanee Lodge, the Encampment and Canton of the Odd Fellows society and is a past grand and past chief patriarch, while in all branches of the grand lodge he has also been connected. He served at one time as grand marshal of the Grand Encampment of Illinois. His political allegiance has been unflinching given to the republican party since he cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his home city and the county and was one of the organizers of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association. He has also given helpful assistance to the Kewanee Public Library and has ever encouraged enterprises for the benefit of the city. It is safe to say that he has as many friends as any man in the county and all who know him are glad to be numbered as such.

---

#### GUSTAV A. POBANZ.

The agricultural interests of Henry county find a worthy representative in Gustav A. Pobanz, a farmer and stock raiser living on section 19, Geneseo township, where he owns one hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land. He believes in modern improvements for the house as well as for the field and has an attractive home in the midst of well tilled land. A native of West Prussia, he was born December 5, 1854, of the marriage of Frederick and Elizabeth Pobanz. They sailed for America when their son Gustav was but seven years of age. They took passage on a sailing vessel which was more than eight weeks in completing the voyage, and after reaching the shores of the new world they came to Henry county. For a time the father worked as a common laborer, but as soon as he could save a small sum of money he purchased ten acres of land in Edford township and built thereon a little cabin. There they lived for about a

year when the house was destroyed by fire, together with all of its contents. At that time the father purchased forty acres of land, on which there was an old house, which remained the family home as long as the parents lived.

In his boyhood days Gustav A. Pobanz attended school for only eighteen months, for in his youth he had to work very hard assisting in the cultivation of the home place and in aiding to provide for the family. On the day that he was twenty-one years of age he had a business settlement with his father, and the next day he bought needed materials for which he went in debt. He would work at night in the coal bank and in the daytime attended school, for he had come to realize the need of an education. He was ambitious to prepare himself for farm work on his own account, and at length rented a small tract of land in Edford township where he lived for a year. The following year he purchased forty acres in Osco township, owning the property for a year, and thus he was making steady progress in his business life.

On the 25th of January, 1879, Mr. Pobanz was married to Miss Teresa Hintz, of Edford township, who was also a native of Germany and had come to America in her childhood days with her parents. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Pobanz removed to Dodge county, Nebraska, where he purchased two hundred acres of land and at once began to develop and improve the farm. He erected substantial buildings upon the place and carried on general agricultural pursuits there through the summer seasons for six years, while in the winter months he worked at the carpenter trade. He met with success in this way and not only prospered in his undertakings but also became an active factor in the public life of the community. He was elected assessor because he could speak two languages, and because his fellow townsmen knew that he would be loyal to duty. Later he sold his property in Nebraska and began to work in an elevator at Scribner, Dodge county, where he continued for about eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he returned to Henry county and bought eighty acres of land in Osco township. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and sixty acres and remained upon that place for ten years, but in 1896 he purchased his present home, comprising one hundred and eighty acres on section 19, Geneseo township. He has put nearly all of the improvements upon this farm and has made it a splendidly developed property, equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century.

The parents of Mrs. Pobanz were John and Elizabeth Hintz, who came to America when she was a little maiden and settled in Edford township, Henry county, Illinois. Her father was a farmer and died when about seventy-four or seventy-five years of age, having for several years survived his wife. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pobanz have been born nine children: Hannah, the wife of Gustav E. Bartz, a resident of Edford township, by whom she has three children; Henry, a farmer of Edford township, who married Minnie Redmond and has two children; Bertha, Emma, Ernest, Rudolph, Walter, Elmer and Freddy, all yet at home.

Politically Mr. Pobanz is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument. He has worked hard for good schools, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp No.

40 and both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical church. His life has been one of continued activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor. He early realized the fact that difficulties and obstacles can be overcome by determined and earnest purpose and his diligence and persistency have brought him to a prominent position among the successful farmers and stock raisers of Geneseo township.

---

### HENRY BOLTE.

Henry Bolte, who for fifteen years has been closely associated with the business development of Geneseo as proprietor of a hardware store and heating and plumbing establishment, was born in the province of Hesse, Germany, November 5, 1855, and is the only survivor of a family of three children, whose parents were Henry and Frederica Bolte, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a stone mason in that country and died in his native land about 1864. The mother afterward married again, becoming the wife of a Mr. Hegge, by whom she had two children, one of whom is now living, John Hegge, who lives at Drewes, Minnesota. Mr. Hegge, the stepfather of our subject, died in Germany, and Mrs. Hegge afterward came with the sons of her second marriage to America, settling in Iowa, where she lived for one year. She died, however, in Chicago at the age of fifty-eight years, passing away in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which she was a member.

Henry Bolte lived in Germany until thirteen years of age, acquiring a good common school education and was confirmed in that country. He came to America in 1869 and took up his abode at Monee, Will county, Illinois, where he was employed at farm labor for four years. He has never feared work and earnest, honest effort has constituted the basis on which he has builded his success. He afterward learned the tinner's trade in Monee, whence he went to Aurelia, Cherokee county, Iowa, in 1878. He was in business there for fifteen years and in 1894 came to Geneseo, where he purchased the hardware store of Roy White and has since conducted a well appointed establishment, carrying a large line of both shelf and heavy hardware. He also does a considerable heating, plumbing and spouting business in addition to his sale of hardware, and the extent of his patronage has made him one of the representative merchants of the city.

On the 12th of June, 1879, Mr. Bolte was married to Miss Frederica Miller, who was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, and is a daughter of Carl and Carolina Miller. Unto them were born the following children: Wilhelmina, Lena, Anna, Emma and Frederick. Wilhelmina is the wife of Herman Heldt, of Chicago and has two children, Aurelia and Edna. Lena died at the age of eight years. Anna and Emma are residents of Chicago and Frederick assists his father in the store. The mother of these children passed away in 1894 at the age of thirty-nine years. On the 11th of January, 1895, Mr. Bolte married again, his second union being with Miss Mary Wendt, a daughter of Henry and Anna (Jabs) Wendt. Mrs. Bolte was born in Edward township, Henry county, Illinois, where her parents had located at an early day on coming to the new world from Pomerin, Germany.

They had two children, but one has passed away, and as the parents are also deceased Mrs. Bolte is now the only survivor of the family.

In his political views Mr. Bolte is a democrat, unfaltering in his allegiance to the party and its principles. When living in Aurelia, Iowa, he served for six years as a member of the city council and has also been a member of the city council of Geneseo for six years. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, in which he was secretary and deacon for a number of years, and at the present time he is one of the church trustees. He lives on East Palace Row, where he owns a good home, and this property is the visible evidence of his life of well directed enterprise and thrift. He is a self-made man, who from the age of thirteen years has been dependent entirely upon his own resources. He has sought his success in the legitimate lines of trade, wherein he has given evidence of sound judgment, keen sagacity and unfaltering diligence. Moreover, his business integrity has ever been above question and he has proven himself a wise and successful merchant as well as a genial, honorable and highly respected man.

---

#### JOSEPH EMANUEL WESTERLUND, M. D.

Joseph Emanuel Westerlund, successfully engaged in the practice of medicine, his work showing familiarity with the most advanced scientific methods, was born in Lynn township, Henry county, Illinois, July 30, 1870. As the name indicates he comes of Swedish ancestry. His grandfather, Eric Westerlund, was a farmer of Sweden and after emigrating to America became a resident of Lynn township, this county, where he died when about seventy years of age. His first wife died when they were on the voyage to the new world. Their son, Jonas Westerlund, the father of the Doctor, was born and reared in Sweden and when twenty-one years of age sought a home on this side of the Atlantic. For a time he was employed in the pineries of Minnesota but became one of the early settlers of Henry county, establishing his home in Lynn township, where he purchased four hundred and forty-five acres of land that he cultivated and improved. He reared his family upon this farm and with the passing years developed a fine property, its value steadily increasing with the improvements he made upon it and with the general rise of realty in this part of the state. He is now living retired, making his home in Orion. He married Elna Nelson, also a native of Sweden, in which country her parents died at an old age. Their daughter Elna was one of three children and in 1853 she came to the United States. Here she gave her hand in marriage to Jonas Westerlund and they traveled life's journey happily together until the 15th of February, 1906, when Mrs. Westerlund passed away at the age of seventy years. Their family numbered nine children, six sons and three daughters, but only four are now living: Henning N., John Edward, Luther Gilbert and Joseph E.

Dr. Westerlund was reared on his father's farm and the district schools afforded him his early educational privileges which were supplemented by a course of study in Augustina College at Rock Island. There he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and entered upon life's practical duties, well

equipped for the fray. In early manhood he engaged in teaching school for several terms and for one year he worked at the printer's trade on the Orion Times. In 1897 he took up the study of medicine and was graduated from the Chicago College of Physicians & Surgeons with the class of 1900. He located for practice in Cambridge in May of the same year and in the period which has since elapsed has established himself in public regard as one of the leading members of the medical profession in this part of the county. He has been very successful in treating diseases, is most careful in the diagnosis of a case and his judgment is seldom, if ever, at error in determining the outcome of disease.

On the 10th of September, 1902, Mr. Westerlund was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Wahlberg, a native of Moline, Illinois, and a daughter of Carl and Mary Wahlberg. Her father was born in Sweden and her mother in Rock Island county, Illinois. They have four children, including Mrs. Westerlund who by her marriage has become the mother of a daughter and son, Alma Elizabeth and Joseph Allen. Dr. and Mrs. Westerlund hold membership in the Lutheran church and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is recognized as one of its local leaders and was secretary of the county central committee for one term while at the present writing he is chairman of the township central committee. He filled the office of president of the board of health for several terms and is serving his third term as a member of the board of education. He belongs to the Cambridge lodge of Odd Fellows and in more specifically professional lines is connected with the county and state medical societies and the American Medical Association. He thus keeps in touch with the advanced thought and purposes of the profession and his constant reading and research have continually promoted his efficiency in the discharge of his daily duties.

---

### HARRY S. WHITE.

Among the young business men of Cambridge Harry S. White is prominent, being of the well known firm of White & Kellogg, grain dealers, who also handle coal, ice and feed. This is his native city, his birth having here occurred September 30, 1878. He is a son of Henry and Hattie (Sims) White, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. In his parents' home his youthful days were passed and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. Advancing through consecutive grades, he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1898, and soon afterward entered upon business life as bookkeeper in the First National Bank, where he continued for a short time. He then went to the First National Bank of Kewanee, Illinois, as teller, and after a brief period accepted a more lucrative and responsible position with the National Tube Company as cashier and paymaster, in which connection there devolved upon him the duty of issuing a pay roll of several thousand dollars per week. He remained with the tube company until the 1st of January, 1909, when he returned to Cambridge, and making investment of the capital which he had saved from his earnings in a business in this city, has since been a factor in its commercial life. Forming a partnership with H. C. Kellogg, he purchased the grain ele-

vator of O. M. Etter & Company, and their business now furnishes an excellent market to the farmers of the community. He handles a large amount of grain each year and also does good business in coal, ice and feed. The trade of the firm is rapidly growing and the enterprise of the partners insures them success.

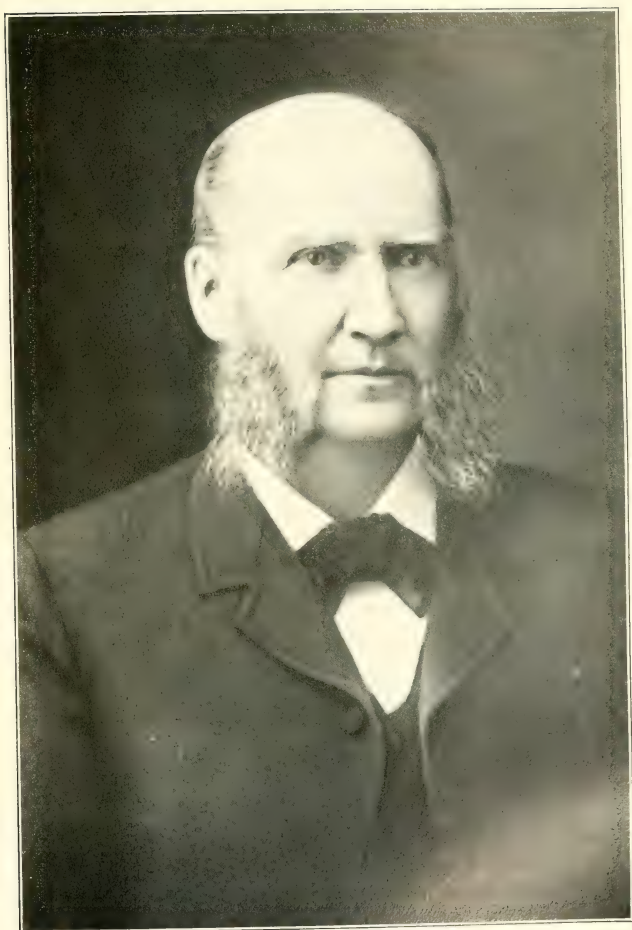
On the 17th of October, 1906, Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Bradley, a daughter of Samuel and Alice Bradley, natives of Kewanee. Theirs is a pleasant and attractive home, where the spirit of warm-hearted hospitality abides. Mr. White belongs to the Baptist church, while his wife is a member of the Primitive Methodist church. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party, and he keeps well informed on the issues and questions of the day, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument. He does not seek nor desire office, however, but prefers to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs.

---

### HENRY WHITE.

Henry White, president of the First National Bank of Cambridge, has been a potent factor in the business interests of this city since 1871, while since 1863 he has made his home in Henry county, having in that year taken up his abode in Geneseo. He was born in Salem, Washington county, New York, July 17, 1836, his parents being James and Jane (Hall) White, the former a native of the north of Ireland and the latter of Argyle, New York. James White chose farming as a life vocation and met death by falling from an apple tree when about forty-eight years of age. His wife long survived him and died in 1871 when almost eighty years of age. He had served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and was always a loyal and public-spirited citizen. Both he and his wife adhered to the faith of the Presbyterian church. Their family numbered twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, of whom six are now living: William, a resident of Hebron, New York; Jane A., the wife of Eli Hatch, of West Pawlet, Vermont; Alexander, living in Waterloo, Iowa; Robert, whose home is in Sandwich, Illinois; Henry, subject of this sketch; and Daniel G., living in Rock Island, Illinois.

Henry White remained a resident of Salem, New York, until he had attained the age of twenty-one or twenty-two years of age and completed his education in the West Hebron Seminary. After leaving home he learned the patternmaker's trade in Oswego, New York, and followed it for a number of years in the east. From Oswego he removed to Geneseo, Illinois, in 1863, and for eight years continued his residence at that place, coming thence to Cambridge. He had there embarked in business as a member of the firm of White & Tuttle, dealers in hardware, and following his removal to Cambridge in 1871 he conducted a hardware and implement business under the firm name of White & Weir. This partnership continued until 1878, when they sold out to Poppleton & Hadley. In 1881 Mr. White assisted in the organization of the First National Bank and was chosen one of its directors and its first vice president. A year later he was elected cashier, which position he filled for a quarter of a cen-



HENRY WHITE



tury and on the death of Nathaniel B. Gould, in 1907, he succeeded to the presidency and has since continued as the chief executive officer of this institution, which is recognized as one of the strong financial concerns of the county. His business probity and the spirit of enterprise which has actuated him in all that he has done have constituted important forces in the promotion of the growth and development of the bank. In addition to his other interests Mr. White has been secretary and treasurer of the Armory Hall Company, treasurer of the Cambridge Electric Light & Power Company, and for a number of years was the president of the Henry County Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

On the 4th of October, 1871, Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Harriett E. Sims, who was born in Cazenovia, New York, where her parents, James and Sabra (Blodgett) Sims, lived for some time, going there when that part of the country was infested with the Indians and remaining residents of the locality until called to their final rest. The father lived to the remarkable old age of one hundred and two years, while his wife died when about sixty years of age. Mrs. White is the only survivor of their family, which numbered nine or ten children. By her marriage she became the mother of four children but the first born, Frank J., died in infancy. Kate L., the second, married Clyde B. Taylor, cashier of the Farmers National Bank of Cambridge and mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Harry S., who for several years was paymaster at the Western Tube Works in Kewanee, Illinois, where about five thousand names were on the payroll, is now conducting a grain elevator in Cambridge in partnership with Harry Kellogg. He married Gertrude L. Bradbury. Herbert D., the youngest, is a graduate of the high school and now lives in Cambridge.

Mr. and Mrs. White are members of the Baptist church, in which he is serving as deacon, and the work of the denomination has been greatly forwarded by their cooperation and generous support. Mr. White has long been an active factor in community affairs, serving for several years as president of the village board of trustees, has also been a member of the board of education, was treasurer of the Old Settlers Association and treasurer of the Henry County Agricultural Society for a number of years. His political endorsement has always been given to the republican party and it is well known that, while at all times amenable to reason, he never swerves from a course which he believes to be right and just in his relations to the public or in his relations to his fellow-men.

---

### SAMUEL JEFFERSON SHARP, D. D. S.

Dr. Samuel Jefferson Sharp, the dean of the dental profession in Kewanee, was born near Abingdon, Washington county, Virginia, on the 2d of August, 1847, his parents being William C. and Nancy R. (Kelly) Sharp, natives of Virginia. The paternal grandfather was likewise born in the Old Dominion. William C. Sharp, who was a planter by occupation, enlisted in the Confederate army at the time of the Civil war and served until taken ill with typhoid fever.

Samuel Jefferson Sharp, who obtained his education under the direction of private tutors, was but fifteen years of age when he was conscripted into the Con-

federate army as a private in the Thirteenth Virginia Reserves, with which he served until the close of hostilities. He was under command of "Mudwall" Jackson and participated in the battle of Saltville, Virginia, as well as in many skirmishes. When the war was ended he came to the north, securing employment as a farm hand in Indiana, while later he worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1869 he came to Henry county, Illinois, and after working on a farm here for some time removed to Missouri, in which state he also devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. Subsequently he took up a claim in Kansas but was obliged to abandon it on account of sickness and returned to Virginia, where he remained for three years. On the expiration of that period he once more made his way back to Illinois, being employed as a farm hand until 1876. In that year he took up the study of dentistry under the direction of Dr. C. W. Watt, of Galva, and in 1877 located in Kewanee for the practice of his profession in partnership with his former preceptor. This association was maintained until Dr. Sharp purchased his partner's interest, since which time he has practiced alone, enjoying a lucrative and constantly growing patronage. Dentistry may be said to be almost unique among other occupations, as it is at once a profession, a trade and a business. Such being the case, it follows that in order to attain the highest success in it one must be thoroughly conversant with the theory of the art, must be expert with the many tools and appliances incidental to the practice of modern dentistry and must possess business qualifications adequate to deal with the financial side of the profession. In all of these particulars Dr. Sharp is well qualified and therefore has attained prestige among the able representatives of dentistry in Henry county. Moreover, he takes a deep and helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the general welfare of his community and is now serving as a director of the Kewanee Fair Association, of which he was one of the organizers and also president at one time. He was likewise one of the organizers and for many years the president of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association, which has erected hundreds of homes and was the first association of its kind in this city. He was also a member of the Business Men's Association and has long been numbered among the most substantial, influential and respected citizens of the community.

On the 16th of January, 1878, Dr. Sharp was joined in wedlock to Miss Ella J. Kliner, of Kewanee, Illinois, a daughter of George Kliner, who was a mason contractor. Their union has been blessed with two daughters. Mabel G., the elder, is now the wife of Walter L. Herdien by whom she has a son, Walter. She now makes her home in Chicago and is a vocalist of great ability, having had splendid training in this direction from the time she was eighteen years of age. She won a scholarship in the Chicago College of Music from a class of three hundred and for the past six years has been a teacher in that college. She also does a great deal of concert and choral work and sings in the leading churches of Chicago. She has sung in many parts of the United States and Canada and is one of the well known and popular sopranos of America. Ruth Mildred Sharp, the other daughter of Dr. Sharp, is now attending the high school and is still at home. She also displays marked musical talent, possessing a fine soprano voice, and is pursuing her musical education in Chicago.

Dr. Sharp gives his political allegiance to the republican party, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust. He served as alderman from the fourth ward for a period of eight years, covering four terms, and has also acted as mayor pro tem, proving an efficient and highly satisfactory incumbent in these responsible positions. Any movement or measure instituted to promote the public welfare always receives his hearty aid and cooperation, and in fact he is widely recognized as one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens of Kewanee. He is an active and valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Fraternal Tribune and the Yeomen of America. The notable success which he has won as a practitioner of dentistry is all the more creditable by reason of the fact that he had to depend practically upon his own resources in the acquirement of a professional education, for in his early manhood there were comparatively few dental colleges and, moreover, he had neither money nor influential friends to aid him. He is a man of intense and well directed activity, his efforts touching many interests bearing upon the welfare of the community, while his personal characteristics have gained for him the warm regard and friendship of many, and in professional lines he has attained that eminence which comes only in recognition of merit and ability.

---

#### THEODORE BECKER.

Theodore Becker is proprietor of a hardware, heating and plumbing establishment at Geneseo. For the past twenty-one years he has been connected with that line of trade and is thoroughly familiar therewith, and his spirit of enterprise enables him to accomplish what he undertakes, where a man of less resolute spirit would fail. He was born in Sigourney, Iowa, September 22, 1862, his parents being Frederick and Julia (Schimmelpfennig) Becker, natives of Prussia and Germany. The former was a baker by trade and was twelve years of age when in 1833 he came to the new world. When a young man he was in Baltimore, Maryland, in New Orleans, Louisiana, and in 1856 he settled in Sigourney, Iowa, where he conducted a bakery. In 1863 he removed to Geneseo, where he conducted a similar business for some years, spending his last days in honorable retirement from labor. He held membership in the German Lutheran church, to which his wife also belonged. He was a man of unfaltering honesty and honor in business affairs and of genuine worth in all private relations. He died in 1905 at the age of eighty-three years, while his widow still survives at the age of seventy-five years. Her parents, on coming to America, settled in Sigourney, Iowa, in 1847. Her father was a farmer by occupation and lived to the venerable age of ninety-four years, while his wife was also well advanced in years when called to her final rest. They were the parents of five children, who are still living: Fred, William, Julia, Mrs. Oberle and Mrs. Bruns.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Becker were eight in number of whom five are still living: Mrs. Charles Clark, whose home is in Atkinson,

Illinois; Theodore; Gustav, of Hooppole, Illinois; Will, who is located in Geneseo; and Mrs. Emma Collins, of Atkinson.

Theodore Becker has lived in Geneseo since 1863. He attended the public schools here, and, having thus qualified for the practical duties of life, he entered business circles in the Peterson Dry Goods Store, where he acted as cashier for five years, and as salesman seven years. The year before he left that establishment he became interested in hardware, heating and plumbing business and at the end of that time concentrated his energies upon the commercial interests which now claim his attention. For the past twenty-one years he has been in the hardware business and has enjoyed a liberal patronage, a number of his patrons remaining with him throughout the entire period while others have long given him their business in his line. He is also doing a heating and plumbing business and both departments are bringing to him a good financial return.

On the 25th of September, 1890, Mr. Becker was united in marriage to Miss Kate Goembel, a native of Alba township, this county, and a daughter of Henry and Catharine Goembel, who were born in Germany but became early settlers of Henry county. Her father died in 1901 while her mother is still living. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Becker has been blessed with four children: Leslie Goembel, Hobert Theodore, Marguerite Mildred and Theodore Lester. Mrs. Becker is a member of the Zion Evangelical Association. Mr. Becker belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; and Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T. He is also connected with Kaaba Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., and is affiliated with the Yeomen of America. He is in hearty sympathy with the underlying principles of Masonry, believing firmly in the teachings of the craft and its beneficent purposes. His political support is given to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. He is preeminently a man of affairs and one who wields a wide influence for his opinions are regarded as sound and his vision keen. Moreover, he is known to be loyal to other movements for the public good, does not regard citizenship as an idle term, nor is he neglectful of the obligations that devolve upon him.

---

#### BARNEY F. GREENHOW, D. D. S.

Dr. Barney F. Greenhow, who has been successfully engaged in the practice of denistry at Kewanee since March, 1903, was born at Vincennes, Indiana, on the 16th of June, 1877, his parents being Richard J. and Elizabeth (Hays) Greenhow, the former a grain dealer. Dr. Greenhow supplemented his preliminary education by a course of study at Vincennes University and subsequently entered the dental department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1899. Locating for the practice of his profession at Pekin, Illinois, he there remained for two years and in March, 1903, came to Kewanee, where he has since resided. He now enjoys an extensive and lucrative patronage and is widely recognized as one of the skilled and able represen-

tatives of the dental fraternity in this county. He is a member of both the Knox County and Illinois State Dental Societies.

On the 18th of June, 1901, Dr. Greenhow was united in marriage to Miss Nelly Mae James, of Pekin, Illinois, her father being James M. James, the vice president of the Farmers National Bank of that city. Dr. and Mrs. Greenhow have no children of their own but are rearing an adopted child.

In his political views Dr. Greenhow is a staunch republican and at the present time is serving as a member of the board of education. He is a valued member of the Kewanee Club and also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masonic fraternity, being now a Royal Arch Mason. He served in the Spanish-American war as a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Indiana Volunteers, having been stationed at Camp Alger, Virginia. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church. The young couple are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community, having won the warm regard and friendship of all with whom they have been associated.

---

### WILLIAM S. JOHNSTON.

William S. Johnston, well known as a successful farmer, stockman and grain buyer of Henry county, is the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of valuable land on section 21, Cambridge township. He was born in Knox county, Illinois, on the 29th of May, 1867, his parents being James and Abigail (Powell) Johnston, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The paternal grandfather was a native of Scotland, and crossed the Atlantic to the United States and settled in Ohio, where his demise occurred. The maternal grandfather of our subject died in Gallia county, Ohio, when he had attained the venerable age of almost one hundred years.

James Johnston, the father of William S. Johnston, was an agriculturist by occupation and became an early settler of Knox county, Illinois. In 1876 he took up his abode in Cambridge township, Henry county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and there spent his remaining days, passing away when sixty-five years of age. He was widely recognized as a most respected and substantial citizen and while residing in Knox county acted as supervisor for many years and also held the office of assessor. His wife was seventy years of age when called to her final rest. They were both devoted and consistent members of the Methodist church, exemplifying its teachings in their daily lives. Unto them were born seven children, six sons and one daughter, four of whom still survive, as follows: Daniel J., a resident of Fairfield, Iowa; Alice, the wife of Alexander Julian, of Fairfield, Iowa; William S., of this review; and Fred, living in Cambridge township.

William S. Johnston spent the first nine years of his life on his father's farm in Knox county and then came with his parents to Henry county, where he has since made his home. He supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the district schools, by three year's attendance at the high school of Cambridge. On putting aside his text-books he turned his attention to general

agricultural pursuits and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. Subsequently he was engaged in the cultivation of rented land for two years and then bought a farm of eighty acres in Cambridge township, which he still owns. His landed holdings now comprise three hundred and eighty acres in Cambridge township, and his wife and her mother are joint owners of two hundred and forty acres. He likewise has a half section of land in Randall county, Texas, and has long been numbered among the most prosperous, enterprising and progressive citizens of the community.

On the 4th of February, 1890, Mr. Johnston was united in marriage to Miss Helen Morris, a native of Cambridge township, this county, and a daughter of Charles A. and Edna (Warner) Morris, who were born in the state of New York. They became early settlers of Henry county, where the father passed away in 1897, when sixty-eight years of age. The mother of Mrs. Johnston still survives. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston has been blessed with three sons and two daughters, namely: Harry; Clyde; Bertha; May; and Elmer, who died in infancy.

Mr. Johnston exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and is now capably serving his fellow townsmen in the office of school director. Fraternally he is identified with Cambridge Lodge, I. O. O. F., and in religious faith both he and his wife are devout Methodists. His aid and cooperation can be counted upon to further every movement calculated to benefit the community, and he and his estimable wife are held in high regard by their many friends.

---

#### FRED LONSER.

Fred Lönser, a resident of Geneseo, living retired in the fourth ward of the city, is still the owner of valuable farming property, having one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 20, Geneseo township. He belongs to that class of worthy citizens that the fatherland has furnished to this part of the state, his birth having occurred in Germany, November 26, 1850, his father being Godfrey Lönser. His youthful days were spent on the home farm in his native country until he was able to earn his living by working as a farm hand in the neighborhood. He was very young at the time of his mother's death, and the other children of the family also passed away, leaving Fred Lönser and his father as the survivors. The father afterward married again, and there is one half-brother, Louis Lönser, who now resides on a farm in Rock Island county, Illinois.

Fred Lönser was about nineteen years of age when he and his half-brother came to America, leaving their father in Germany, where he soon afterward departed this life. The young men were attracted to the new world by the opportunities which were afforded in this country. They came to Henry county, and for a long period the subject of this review worked as a farm hand by the month, carefully saving his earnings until he was at length enabled to purchase land. His diligence and economy have brought him substantial success

as the years have gone by. After he had been a resident of Henry county for eighteen years, he purchased eighty acres of land where he now resides, going in debt for a part of this. However, he practiced rigid economy until he was able to cancel that financial obligation, and since that time he has added forty acres to the original tract. His home place now comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land from which are annually gathered good crops, and from the farm he receives a substantial income.

On the 31st of March, 1890, in Geneseo township, Mr. Lönser was united in marriage to Miss Frederica Hamman, who was also born in Germany and came to the United States with her parents. Three children have blessed this union: Fred, at home; Flora, the wife of George Yager; and Minnie, who completes the family. The parents are members of the German Lutheran church and are possessed of many good qualities which have won for them the confidence and warm regard of all who know them. Mr. Lönser deserves great credit for the success which he has accomplished for he started out in life empty-handed, and, coming to America, unacquainted with the customs, manners and language of the people, he readily adapted himself to changed circumstances and environment and gradually worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the men of affluence in his part of the county.

---

#### JACOB Y. MAYHEW.

Jacob Y. Mayhew, who since 1896 has been successfully engaged in the conduct of a storage and transfer business at Kewanee, is numbered among the worthy native sons of this city, having been born here on the 13th of September, 1863. After completing his education in the public schools he secured a position as clerk in the grocery store of M. C. Quinn, where he remained for four years. On the expiration of that period he made his way to Seattle, Washington, where he remained for two and a half years, working on a steamboat and also as an employe in a restaurant. After returning to this county in December, 1886, he entered the service of the American Express Company, in whose employ he remained for about seven years or until 1893, acting in the various capacities of clerk messenger, cashier and agent at various places. In November, 1894, he entered business circles at Kewanee as the junior member of the firm of Stancliff & Mayhew, engaging in the buying and selling of poultry. In 1896 he disposed of his interest in that concern and bought the transfer business of A. F. Bigelow, establishing the Mayhew Storage & Transfer Company, which he has successfully conducted to the present time. His business methods will bear the closest scrutiny and investigation, and his well known probity has gained for him the respect of all.

In November, 1889, Mr. Mayhew was united in marriage to Miss Effie L. Kayser, of Litchfield, Illinois, by whom he has three children, namely: Laila P., who completed the high school course in 1909; George Albert, a high school student; and Max J. Mr. Mayhew belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Modern

Woodmen of America and the Masons, having attained the Knight Templar degree in the last named fraternity. He is also a past exalted ruler in the Elks lodge. Upright character and sterling worth have gained him a favorable place in the regard of many friends, and Henry county numbers him among her valued citizens.

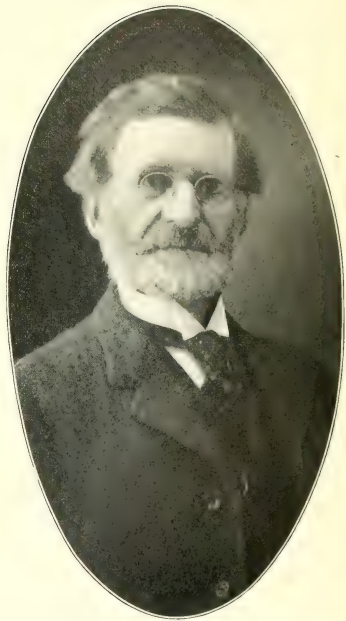
---

### MARVIN K. PAUL.

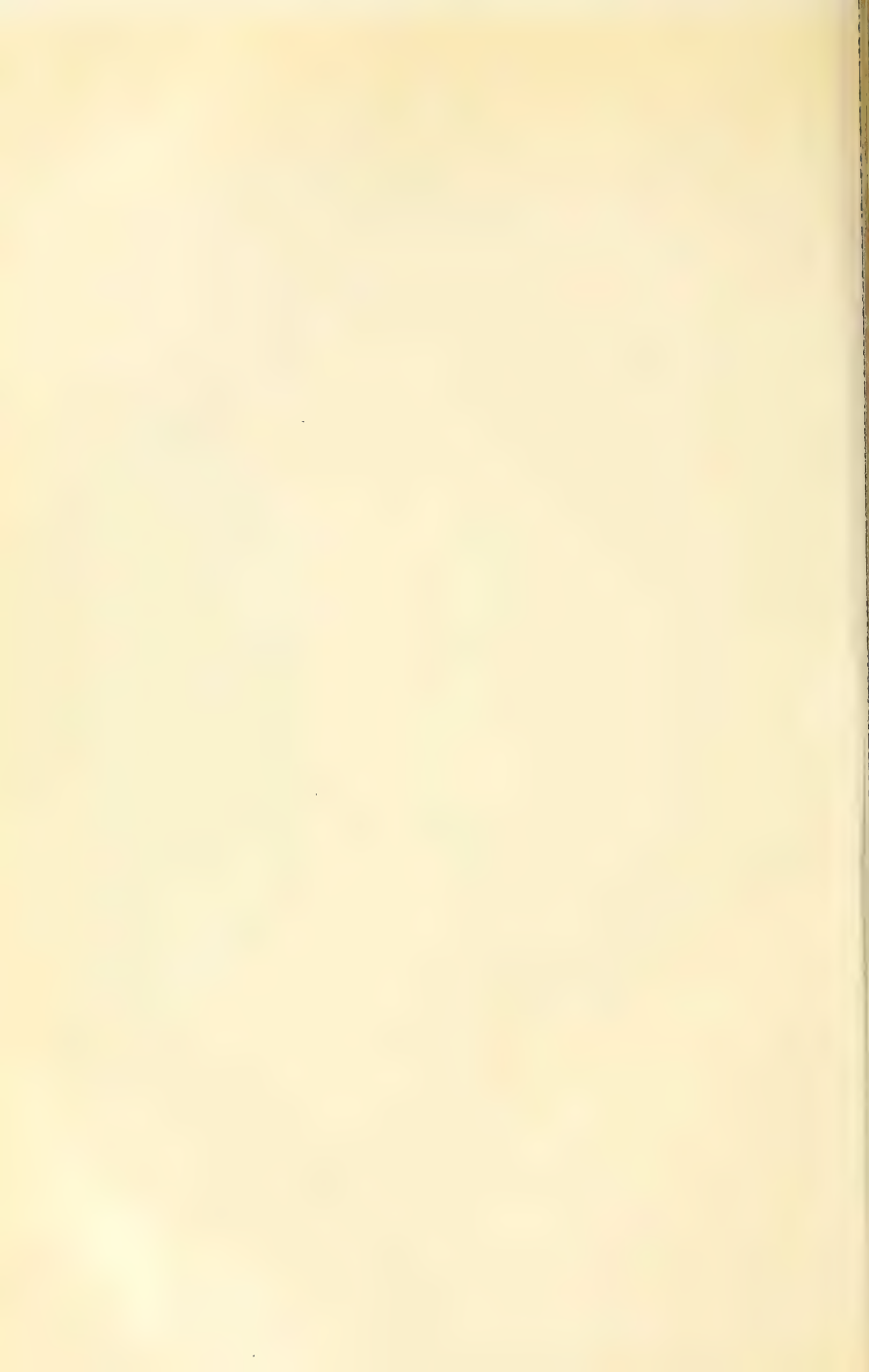
Fifty-two years have come and gone since Marvin K. Paul became a permanent resident of Henry county. He had previously visited the district in 1854 and had invested in eighty acres of land which is now a part of the old homestead. When he took possession of the place it was entirely wild and unimproved and that he has led an active and busy life is indicated in the attractive appearance of the farm today, which is one of the well developed properties of Geneseo township. It is situated on section 7 and for many years Mr. Paul in addition to tilling the soil has also carried on stock raising. He is far departed from the place of his nativity, for he is one of New England's sons, his birth having occurred near Union, Tolland county, Connecticut, on the 22d of August, 1829. His parents were Chauncey and Polly (Armour) Paul, the former a son of Robert and Anna (Sessions) Paul. Robert Paul was a native of the north of Ireland and of Scotch descent. Coming to America he espoused the cause of the colonists and served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The mother of our subject was a native of Union, Tolland county, Connecticut, and was an aunt of Philip Armour, the multi-millionaire meat packer of Chicago.

On the home farm Marvin K. Paul was reared and acquired a good education, for the father prepared each of his children for teaching. He attended both the Munson Academy in Massachusetts and Williston Seminary in Easthampton, Massachusetts. At seventeen years of age he began teaching in the town of Stafford, Connecticut, and followed the profession through the winter seasons, while the summer months were devoted to farm work. He taught one winter in North Providence, Rhode Island, and proved a capable educator, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired. While still living in the east he was married, the wedding being celebrated at Willington, Connecticut, on the 24th of March, 1856, the lady of his choice being Miss Janette Fuller, who was born at that place, May 29, 1832. Her parents were Willard and Minerva (Walker) Fuller, and on the home farm she was reared and acquired a good education in the public schools, after which she became a public-school teacher in Connecticut, teaching off and on for about ten years.

In the year following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Paul came to Henry county, Illinois, to which district two of his brothers had made their way the previous year. Mr. Paul had visited the county in 1854 and had purchased eighty acres of land which is now a part of the home farm. He paid four dollars an acre for this property, which was entirely destitute of modern im-



MR. AND MRS. M. K. PAUL



provements. There were no trees, only a few bushes growing along the creek and deer were frequently seen on the place, while wild game of other kind was quite plentiful. It was an arduous task to break the sod and till the fields for the first time, but as the work was carried on year by year it became easier and his labors were rewarded by generous harvests. When he came to the county in 1857 Mr. Paul brought his wife with him and they lived at a neighbor's home while he built the upright part of his residence. Here he has lived continuously since and is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which is a valuable and productive tract. The Hennepin canal passes through one forty acre tract of his place.

As the years went by five children were added to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Paul, but two of the number died in childhood. The others are: Jennie L., the wife of William Jaques, a resident of Kansas City, Kansas, by whom she has two sons, Ewart Paul and Kenneth; Marilla, the wife of Jackson B. Young, a resident of Oakland, California; and Nellie, who is the wife of William A. Walters and has one child, Paul Merrill. Mrs. Paul's ancestors came from England in 1689 and settled on the land where she was born, it continuing to be the home of the family for over two hundred years.

Mr. Paul cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont and for a number of years continued to support the republican ticket but later became a greenbacker and populist. He has never been an office seeker but served as school director for thirty years and has always been an ardent advocate of any measure that furthers good schools. He was reared in the faith of the Congregational church but is now liberal in his religious views. He has attained the age of four score years and is yet a vigorous, enterprising man, well preserved for one of his age. He does not live in the past as so many old people do but is yet interested in the affairs of the present and to a large extent supervises the cultivation and improvement of his farm. Much to his surprise, on the eightieth anniversary of his birth, there gathered at his home not only his children but also many old friends from town and the surrounding country to offer their congratulations and tokens of their esteem.

---

### CONSTANT BROWN.

Constant Brown, pleasant and genial in manner and faithful to every trust reposed in him, is well qualified for the position which he is now filling as freight and ticket agent for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Company, at Geneseo. His life record began on the 20th of March, 1845, the place of his nativity being Canajoharie, Montgomery county, New York. He was named for his paternal grandfather, Constant Brown, Sr., who was also a native of the Empire state. He was prominent in community affairs there, served as sheriff of Montgomery county for several years and was also justice of the peace. He was likewise a soldier of the war of 1812, and his military record and his official career were alike creditable and honorable. He married Miss Phoebe Albertson, and they continued their residence in New York until called to their

final rest, Mr. Brown passing away at the age of eighty-six years, while his wife died when sixty-eight years of age. They had two sons and two daughters: Julia, Eliza, Charles H. and Constant. The last named, however, was drowned when six years of age.

Charles H. Brown, the father of our subject, was born in New York and devoted his entire life to business as a merchant tailor. He wedded Susan H. Hees, who was likewise a native of the Empire state, as were her parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Lipe) Hees. Her father was for many years a farmer of Montgomery county, New York, and was of Holland-Dutch descent. He passed away when sixty-five years of age, while his wife lived to the advanced age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of eleven children, all of whom are now deceased. This number included Mrs. Susan H. Brown. For years after their marriage the parents of our subject remained in New York but when well advanced in years sought a home in Geneseo in 1889. Here the death of Mr. Brown occurred in 1903, when he was eighty-four years of age. His wife survived him and died in 1907 at the age of eighty-five years. Both were consistent Christian people and held membership in the Presbyterian church, and their upright lives won them the love and esteem of all who knew them. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, three of whom reached years of maturity: Mary E., the deceased wife of J. E. H. Kelley; Constant; and Jacob H., who is living in Cleveland, Ohio.

Constant Brown spent the first eight years of his life in the place of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal from Montgomery county to Oneida county, New York, living in Rome and Utica until twenty years of age. He attended the public schools there and was graduated from the Rome Academy in 1862. He afterward taught school for two winters and one summer and in 1865 came west to Illinois. Through the succeeding winter he engaged in teaching in Bureau county and in the following summer was employed as farm labor. On the 17th of October, 1866, he entered the service of the Rock Island Railway Company as agent of what was then called Pond Creek but is now Wyanet. There he continued until the 1st of July, 1884, when he came to Geneseo and was made freight and ticket agent here, which position he has filled continuously since for a period of a quarter of a century.

On the 23d of August, 1866, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Annie M. Wilcox, a daughter of Oliver G. Wilcox. Mrs. Brown was born in Oswego county, New York, and her parents were also natives of that state. Arriving in Illinois in 1853 they settled at Princeton, where their remaining days were passed. The father was a soldier of the war of 1812. Mrs. Brown attended the first county fair held in Bureau county, over a half century ago, the place being in a schoolhouse, the exhibits being displayed on the school desks. She has lived to see many notable changes in this part of the state, as northern Illinois has put off the evidences of frontier life and taken on all the advantages of modern civilization.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born seven children. Charles H., who is now station agent at Marquette, Illinois, married Nelly O'Leary, and they have three daughters: Annie M., Beatrice and Helen. Constant, who married Matie Striker, is engaged in the grain and stock business at Wyanet.

Fred H., a grocer at Geneseo, married Jessie L. Sargent, and they have two children: Dorothy and Constant. Harry E. is a lawyer of Geneseo, who married Mabel Welton. Roy W., who married Grace McLean, is manager of the Globe Manufacturing Company, of Amsterdam, New York. Susan H., who married Elmer C. Wilcox, lives in Argentine, Kansas. And Leslie R. died at the age of nineteen years on board a hospital ship during the Spanish-American war and was buried at sea.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Methodist church, interested in its work and active in various movements for its upbuilding. Mr. Brown is serving as one of the church trustees. He belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. For three years he was a member of the board of education, and his work in behalf of the schools was far-reaching and effective. That he has remained with the railroad company in one position for twenty-five years is unmistakable proof of his ability and trustworthiness, and his manner is at once so courteous and obliging as to make him a most popular official with the patrons of the road.

---

### THEODORE H. COLDY.

A fine farm of eighty acres on section 32, Cambridge township, is the property of Theodore H. Coldy, and annually pays tribute to his care and labor in bounteous harvests. He was born in Weller township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 30th of December, 1847, his parents being Henry and Mary (Fenn) Coldy, who were natives of Prussia and Cambridge, England, respectively. The maternal grandfather, James Fenn, was likewise born in England and both he and his wife died in that country.

Henry Coldy, the father of Theodore H. Coldy, became one of the earliest settlers in Henry county and took up a tract of eighty acres of government land in Weller township. He was actively identified with agricultural interests until the time of his death, which occurred in 1852. In religious faith he was a Lutheran, and his life was at all times in harmony with his professions. His wife, who survived him for more than a half century, was called to her final rest in 1903, when she had attained the age of seventy-nine years. She belonged to the Church of England. By her marriage she had become the mother of five children, two sons and three daughters, as follows: Emily, the deceased wife of William B. Pettit, of Rock Island; Eliza, the wife of Edward Harrison; Theodore H., of this review; Mary Jane, the wife of Thomas Quirk; and Edward, who has also passed away.

Theodore H. Coldy was reared on the home farm in Weller township and attended the district schools in pursuit of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. He inherited a tract of thirty acres and afterward bought fifty acres more, so that his farm now comprises eighty acres of rich and productive land on section 32, Cambridge township. When the property came into his possession it was all raw prairie, but he resolutely set to work and gradually transformed it into a valuable and well im-

proved farm. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has met with a most gratifying measure of success, following only the most practical and modern methods in carrying on his work.

On the 16th of March, 1869, Mr. Coldy was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Brooks, who birth occurred in Starksboro, Vermont, November 19, 1850. Her parents, Henry and Melvina (Hastings) Brooks, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain state, came to Illinois in 1852, and took up their abode in Weller township, this county. Subsequently they located on a farm which they had purchased near Bancroft in Kingsbury county, South Dakota. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brooks died in De Smet, South Dakota, the former passing away on the 14th of January, 1907, when he was almost eighty-six years of age. His wife was called to her final rest in 1904 at the age of about eighty years. Their children were six in number, namely: Ellen; Lucy, the deceased wife of Absalom Hoover, who served as a soldier in the Civil war; Mary; Harriet; Eliza; and George. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coldy have been born four children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were as follows: Viola, who is at home; Norman, who passed away at the age of six years; Charles Eugene, also at home.

Mr. Coldy gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served as a school director in his township. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church, with which his wife is also identified. He is well known and highly esteemed throughout the community in which his entire life has been spent, and that his career has ever been upright and honorable is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunchest friends and admirers.

---

### JOHN M. COSTELLO.

John M. Costello is numbered among those who are active in the government of the city, and his official service has gained him a firm hold on the regard of those who appreciate fidelity and capability in public office. He was born in New York city, February 23, 1859, his parents being Michael and Maria (Madden) Costello, both of whom were natives of County Galway, Ireland. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and when he came to America in 1854 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, two and a half miles southeast of Geneseo, Illinois. He did not tarry in the middle west, however, but returned to New York, where he lived until 1856, when he brought his family to Henry county and here took up the occupation of farming, which he continued to make his occupation until advanced age caused him to put aside the more strenuous cares of business life. He died on the home farm, when eighty-eight years of age, and his wife passed away at the age of eighty-six. They were both members of the Catholic church. Their family numbered three daughters and a son: Margaret, the deceased wife of Richard Smith; Mary, the widow of J. A. Ballentine, of Geneseo; Anna Eliza, also of Geneseo; and John M.

In taking up the present history of John M. Costello we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely known in this county, for, although born in New York city, his youth was passed upon the old home farm in Henry county. During that period he attended the district schools, devoting the weeks of vacation to farm work so that he early gained practical experience in the best methods of tilling the soil. After the death of his parents he continued to cultivate the home farm which he owned in partnership with his sister Anna. In 1905, thinking to find town life congenial, he removed to Geneseo and was soon afterward elected city marshal, which position he held for nine months. At that time there was a change of administration, but in September, 1907, he was reelected to the office, which he has filled continuously since. He had previously held the office of constable for twenty-five years, and has thus for a long period been a faithful warden of the public peace. In the spring of 1909 he sold his farm, expecting to remain continuously a resident of this city.

On the 1st of January, 1902, Mr. Costello was united in marriage to Miss Frances Gladman, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret Gladman. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and also holds membership with the Owls and has many warm friends in the fraternities with which he is connected. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party, and he is recognized as an active and substantial worker in its ranks. He is fearless in the discharge of his duty, shows no favor but seeks to promote the interests of the city by always maintaining law and order.

---

### JAMES ORR.

James Orr is now living retired in Geneseo, but for a long period he was closely associated with agricultural interests, and his business methods were so practical, his enterprise so keen and his energy so unabating that he won a place among the men of affluence in Henry county. He is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Cornwall township, May 11, 1855. His parents were James and Mary (Shale) Orr, both of whom were natives of County Down, Ireland. The paternal grandfather was a Scotchman but removed to the Emerald isle, where he spent his last few days. Mr. and Mrs. James Orr, Sr., were reared, educated and married in Ireland, and, coming to the United States, took up their abode at Safe Harbor, near Philadelphia, where Mr. Orr was employed for a number of years in the iron works. About 1850 he came to Illinois and spent a few months in Peoria, after which he arrived in Henry county and purchased a farm of eighty acres in Cornwall township. His capital was then limited, and that he prospered in his undertakings was indicated in the fact that he added to his original holdings until his farming interests aggregated four hundred and eighty acres. He died upon his home farm in Cornwall township in 1883 at the age of seventy-two years, and his wife, who survived him for two years, passed away at the age of seventy-three years. Their religious faith was indicated in their membership in the Presbyterian church.

James Orr, whose name introduces this review, spent his youthful days as do most farm boys, being reared in the old homestead in Henry county. The district schools afforded him his educational opportunities, and the periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the fields, while at times he was just as busily employed with the games and pastimes in which the youth of the period indulged. After attaining his majority he married and carried on farming in a part of his father's land for several years. His life has been that of an energetic agriculturist who carefully tills the soil, utilizing such modern, progressive and scientific methods as produce the best results in the cultivation of crops. In 1888 he removed to Geneseo where he purchased a good residence on South State street where he still lives. He derives a substantial income from two hundred acres of land which is his old homestead, and has also a half section of land in Manitoba, Canada.

On the 20th of December, 1882, Mr. Orr was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth Terpening, who was born in Munson township, this county, May 17, 1864. She is a daughter of William H. and Eliza Ann (Mason) Terpening. The former was a son of Henry Terpening, a native of New York and a farmer by occupation. His father was Levi Terpening, a native of Holland and the founder of the family in the new world. Henry Terpening married a Miss Gee, and both lived to an old age. Their children included William H. Terpening, who removed from Cortland county, New York, to Illinois in 1851. He had previously wedded Eliza Ann Mason, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and was a daughter of George and Catharine (Sloop) Mason. Her father was a wheelwright by trade and conducted a large shop in Cincinnati at a time when everything was made by hand. He removed to Illinois when an old man, settling near Maryland City. Unto him and his wife were born three sons and three daughters, including Eliza Ann, who became Mrs. Terpening. As stated, the year 1851 witnessed the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Terpening in Illinois, at which time they settled in Munson township, Henry county. Subsequently they removed to Iowa and lived near Creston for nine years. They then returned to Henry county in 1864 and the father died in 1902 at the age of eighty-four years. He had for about two years survived his wife, who passed away in 1900 and was also eighty-four years of age at the time of her demise. Their children were ten in number: George A., a resident of Seattle, Washington; Martha A., the wife of Samuel Wilson, who is living near Belleville, Kansas; Missoura A., the widow of George Terpening, of Mokena, Illinois; Clinton W., of Bedford, Iowa; Francis A., whose home is in Albia, Kansas; Melissa, the wife of George Dorflinger, of Bryn Mawr, Washington; Minnie, the deceased wife of William Hutchinson; Marion C., whose home is near Larimore, North Dakota; Charles S., who is located at Pendleton, Oregon; and Mary E., now Mrs. Orr.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Orr has been blessed with two children, Ona E. and Elbert G. The former is the wife of Albert Sheldon Bradley, and they reside with Mr. and Mrs. Orr. The parents are members of the Unitarian church, and Mr. Orr belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; the Modern Woodmen camp and the Knights of Pythias lodge. Both he and his wife hold membership in Geneseo Chapter,

No. 175, O. E. S. His political endorsement is given to the democracy, but he neither seeks nor desires office as a reward for party fealty. He receives from his fellow townsmen the respect and confidence which the world instinctively yields as its tribute to genuine worth. He has long lived in this county, and his business enterprise is manifest in the success which has crowned his labors.

---

### CARL STACH.

Carl Stach, residing on section 18, Cambridge township, is the owner of a finely improved farm of one hundred and thirty-nine acres. He was born in Westpruessen, Germany, on the 25th of October, 1858, his parents being Carl and Elizabeth (Knundt) Stach, who were likewise natives of the fatherland. Carl Stach, Sr., carried on general agricultural pursuits in his native country and in 1879, when quite well advanced in years, crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode in Hamilton county, Nebraska. His demise there occurred when he was about sixty-eight years of age. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1865 at the age of thirty-two years. They were both devoted and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Their union was blessed with seven children, three sons and four daughters, as follows: Carl, of this review; Herman; Adolph; Amelia, who is the wife of Gust Marquahrt, and resides in Canada; Augusta, the deceased wife of Julius Frank; Paulina, the deceased wife of Robert Fenster; and Minnie, the wife of Robert Fenster, of Hampton, Nebraska.

Carl Stach remained on the home farm in Germany until fourteen years of age and then learned the flour milling business. In the year 1880, when a young man of twenty-one, he set sail for the new world, and after landing in the United States made his way at once to Morristown, Henry county, Illinois. He first secured employment by the month as a farm hand and subsequent to his marriage rented a tract of land, being thus actively connected with farming interests for about nine years. At the end of that time, owing to his well directed energy and good management, he had accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to purchase one hundred and forty-one and a half acres of land in Cambridge and Andover townships. He afterward sold two and a half acres in Andover township for a cemetery but has retained the remaining one hundred and thirty-nine acres to the present time and has devoted his energies to general agricultural pursuits with excellent success. The property is lacking in none of the improvements and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century and in fact everything about the place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner. In 1909 he erected the handsome and modern dwelling in which he now resides.

On the 20th of December, 1885, Mr. Stach was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Jane Wyatt, whose birth occurred in Youngstown, Ohio, February 19, 1865. Her parents, William and Betsy (Pollott) Wyatt, who were natives of England, located near Youngstown, Ohio, after coming to the United States. The father, who was a coal miner, died on the 22d of March, 1889, when about

fifty-four years of age. His wife, who was born on the 3d of March, 1841, was called to her final rest on the 24th of January, 1905, when sixty-four years of age. She was a Baptist in religious faith. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt were born eleven children, as follows: Maria, the widow of Alexander Gee; Mary Jane; Emily; Lizzie; Bridget, the widow of John Scott; John; William; Linnie; and three who died in early life. John and Lizzie Pollott, the maternal grandparents of Mrs. Stach, crossed the Atlantic from England to the United States and took up their abode in the vicinity of Youngstown, Ohio, where they died at an advanced age. John Pollott was a coal miner. Unto him and his wife were born four sons and two daughters, namely: Mary Ann, Betsy, Ivan, Abram, John and Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Stach have become the parents of six children: Ella, who makes her home in Cornwall township and is the wife of Herman Schnowske, by whom she has two children—Raymond and Dorothy; and Jennie, Rosa, Freddie, Herbert and George, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Stach is a staunch republican, being convinced that the principles of that party are most conducive to good government. He has capably served his fellow townsmen in the position of school director for three years. He belongs to the Mystic Workers and in all the varied relations of life has proven himself worthy of the trust and confidence so uniformly reposed in him. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for the opportunities which he sought he found and improved and as a result is now one of the men of affluence in his community.

---

### JOHN OFFERLE.

John Offerle, who has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, is a retired shoemaker living in Geneseo. He was born in Alsace, France, September 30, 1829, and is a son of John Jacob and Saloma (Peter) Offerle, both of whom were also natives of Alsace. The ancestors of the family lived in Normandy, France, and were of the faith of the Waldenses. In the time of the Catholic persecution they fled from Normandy to Switzerland, and thence their descendants went to Alsace, settling in Baldenheim, in the department of Du-Pas-Rhine near Schlestadt. The great-great-grandfather of our subject was John Jacob Offerle, who was born in 1705, and died November 17, 1773. He was married in 1730 to Sarah Meinold, whose mother bore the maiden name of Adam Peter, a native of Alsace, France, and a linen weaver by trade. Both he and his wife died in that country. John Jacob Offerle, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Baldenheim in September 20, 1845, at the age of forty-eight years, his birth having occurred April 20, 1797. His first wife, who was born in Baldenheim in 1798, passed away November 27, 1841. He afterward married again, his second union being with Saloma Hertzell. He and both of his wives were members of the Lutheran church. By his first marriage there were five sons and two daughters, but only two are now living, the sister of our subject being Mrs. Mary Hessel, the wife of Charles Hessel, of London, Ontario. The two children of the father's second marriage were Catharine and Christian.

John Offerle was educated in the schools of his native province in both the French and German languages and when sixteen years of age began learning the shoemaker's trade. In 1847 at the age of eighteen years he came to America, settling in Warren, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in shoemaking. Since 1864 he has resided continuously in Geneseo, where he and his brother George established a shoe store, which they conducted together for three or four years. On the expiration of that period they dissolved partnership and John Offerle continued to make boots and shoes, enjoying a good patronage in that line until 1900, since which time he has lived retired. He remained an active factor in the world's work until after his seventy-first year, and the rest which he has since enjoyed has been well merited, for his competence was honorably earned.

On the 23d of December, 1852, Mr. Offerle was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Fisher, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Eisler) Fisher. Mrs. Offerle was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, April 12, 1836, but her parents were natives of Alsace, France, and her father was one of Napoleon's body guard. He was tall and handsome, and moreover, a man of high character, who led a consistent Christian life. He died in Warren, Pennsylvania, in 1848 at the age of fifty-three years, and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1891 at the age of eighty-four years, her death occurring in Geneseo. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Offerle have been born seven children: Josephine, the wife of John Minsch, of Hooppole, Illinois, by whom she has six children—Lora, Charles, Florence, Alice, Cora and Warren; Henry of Lane county, Kansas, who married Hattie McKinley and has four children—John, Eva, Charles and Freddie; Diana, the wife of Philip Sommers of Abilene, Kansas, who has three children—Stacy, Lynn, and Lorena; Lorena, the wife of Richard Arnold, of Geneseo and the mother of one daughter, Oneida; Cora, who died at the age of twenty-five years; Alfred, a farmer of Munson township, who married Lulu Wildermuth and has two children—Earl and Della; and Aaron, who resides in Enid, Oklahoma.

Mr. Offerle is a stanch advocate of all that he believes to be right and manifests his views in the temperance question by the loyal support which he gives the prohibition party. Both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical church and are good Christian people, active in the church work. They are highly esteemed for their genuine worth and have lived exemplary lives before their children and before all of the world. Because of this they can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

---

#### WARREN O. HOUGHTON.

Warren O. Houghton, the secretary, treasurer and general manager of the E. W. Houghton Lumber Company of Galva, was born at Wyand, Bureau county, Illinois, on the 11th of October, 1868. His parents, Edwin W. and Adaline (Bean) Houghton, were both natives of the state of New York. The paternal grandfather, Warren Houghton, whose birth likewise occurred in the Empire state, was of English descent. Throughout his active business career he was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits. Both he and his wife

lived to a ripe old age and reared quite a large family of children. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Orson Bean, was also a native of New York and of English descent. He followed farming as a means of livelihood and made his home at Hume, New York, where he passed away when well advanced in years.

Edwin W. Houghton, the father of Warren O. Houghton, made his way from Houghton, New York, to Bureau county, Illinois, in the year 1864 and located at Wyanet. He was busily engaged as a carpenter and builder for some years and subsequently embarked in the lumber business at Wyanet, where he remained until 1879, when he took up his abode in Henry, Marshall county, Illinois. In 1882 he came to Galva, this county, and established the E. W. Houghton Lumber Company, of which he is still the president. He was thus actively and prominently identified with the industrial interests of the county for about two decades but for the past seven years has lived retired in Chicago. He is a stalwart republican in his political views and while residing in Galva served as supervisor and also as president of the village board. He likewise represented this district in the Illinois legislature for one term and was widely recognized as a most influential, respected and substantial citizen. He is a Knight Templar Mason and a worthy exemplar of the craft. He attends the Congregational church, of which his wife was a member. The latter, whose birth occurred at Hume, New York, in 1835, passed away on the 30th of September, 1897, when sixty-two years of age.

Warren O. Houghton obtained his primary education in the schools of Wyanet and Henry, Illinois, and when fourteen years of age came to Galva, where he attended the high school and grew to manhood. On the 1st of November, 1887, he entered his father's office in the capacity of a bookkeeper and salesman. Two years later the company was incorporated and subsequently he was made secretary and treasurer of the concern, while since his father's removal to Chicago he has also acted as manager. The E. W. Houghton Lumber Company operates eight other yards at the following places: Altona, Bradford, Wyoming, Wyanet, Lamoille, Van Orin, Princeton and Victoria. The headquarters of the firm are at Galva. Mr. Houghton is likewise the president of the Kenova Manufacturing Company of Kenova, West Virginia, manufacturers of interior finish. His connection with any undertaking insures a prosperous outcome of the same, for it is in his nature to carry forward to successful completion whatever he is associated with. He has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, and in his dealings is known for his prompt and honorable methods, which have won him the deserved and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen.

On the 11th of July, 1899, Mr. Houghton was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Nowers, who was born near Atkinson, Illinois, her parents being James and Ella (Woliver) Nowers, the former a native of New York and the latter of Illinois. They took up their abode in this county at a comparatively early day and reared a family of three children, namely: Decima, the wife of Samuel West; Albert A.; and Mrs. Houghton. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Houghton was Thomas Nowers, a native of England, who crossed the Atlantic to the United States in early manhood and first located in Oneida county, New York. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Decima Foster, was the tenth in order of birth in her

father's family. They were among the earliest settlers in this county and both passed away in Atkinson when well advanced in years, Thomas Nowers being more than eighty years old at the time of his demise. John and Margaret (Hul-sizer) Woliver, the maternal grandparents of Mrs. Houghton, were both born in New Jersey, the former being of English descent, while the latter came of German lineage. They were also numbered among the early settlers of Henry county and died in Atkinson when about sixty-three and sixty-five years of age respectively. Their children were nine in number. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Houghton has been born a daughter, Helen.

In his political views Mr. Houghton is a stalwart republican, inflexible in support of the principles of his party. For one term he was president of the village board of Galva and proved a most loyal and efficient incumbent in that responsible position. Fraternally he is identified with Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Congregational church, in which both he and his wife hold membership. In whatever relation of life he has been found he has been true and loyal to the trust reposed in him and his life has been in conformity with a high standard of conduct. Those who have regard for the true worth and value of character give to Warren O. Houghton their entire respect and accord him a position of prominence in public regard in Galva.

---

#### WILLIAM HENRY WILSON.

William Henry Wilson is the owner of a fine farm on section 30, Geneseo township. The land is rolling and the soil is naturally rich and productive. The place comprises almost one hundred and sixty-four acres, and, thereon Mr. Wilson is engaged in general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of the breeding of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle and thoroughbred poultry. He is also well known in connection with the cultivation of seed corn and in the various branches is meeting with success, which is the merited reward of his labors. He is one of Henry county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Munson township, February 19, 1863, his parents being Abner and Elizabeth (Larue) Wilson. The father was born at West Amwell, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, May 31, 1823, and there spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was married there December 18, 1847, to Miss Elizabeth Larue and in 1856 came to Illinois, accompanied by his family. Soon after his arrival he purchased land and for a time resided in Geneseo township, but later sold that property and removed to Munson township, where he resided for a few years. He then returned to Geneseo township and purchased a farm, upon which his son William H. now resides. He was an enterprising agriculturist, whose methods were at once practical and progressive and brought to him substantial success. In his political views he was republican, but was never an office seeker. The Methodist Episcopal church found in him a zealous member and his life was in consistent harmony with its principles. His wife was also a native of Hunterdon county, New Jersey, born November 23, 1825. She was reared in the Baptist

faith, but after her marriage joined the Methodist Episcopal church that she might be with her husband in his religious belief. She died July 11, 1881, and the graves of both Mr. and Mrs. Abner Wilson were made in Oakwood cemetery of Geneseo. Their family numbered six children: Howard J., who died June 10, 1870; Arabella, the wife of T. H. Clark, a resident of Los Angeles, California; Rebecca E., the wife of William Duff, a resident of Edford township; John W., who died in infancy; William H.; and Albert W., who married Cora Stimpson, died in Geneseo township on the 17th of March, 1902.

In his youthful days William Henry pursued his education in the public schools and was also trained to the work of the fields while spending his boyhood under his father's roof. He remained at home until about twenty years of age, when he started upon the road as a traveling salesman. He represented different firms and traveled throughout the New England states, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Colorado and Oklahoma. In 1889 while in Meriden, Connecticut, he formed the acquaintance of Miss Agnes Hall of Island Pond, Essex county, Vermont, and on the 31st of January, 1891, they were married at her home in the Green Mountain state. Mrs. Wilson is a daughter of Austin and Semantha (Stevens) Hall. Her father was born in Waterford, Vermont, October 31, 1840, and died at Island Pond, that state, April 24, 1900. He was a member of the military order of the Loyal Legion, which at his death issued the following memorial:

"Companion Hall was born in the town of Waterford, Vermont, October 31, 1840, his parents being Ransom and Annie (Caswell) Hall. Of his early life and training your committee has not succeeded in getting any definite information, but no doubt he had a good business education, from the admirable manner in which his duties as regimental adjutant and officer of the customs were performed.

"He enlisted June 20, 1861, as a private in Company D, Third Vermont Volunteers, was promoted sergeant July 16, 1861 and was mustered out with his regiment as first sergeant July 27, 1864. He immediately reenlisted and was commissioned first lieutenant of Company I, of the same regiment, July 28, 1864. On the 18th of October, 1864, he was appointed adjutant of the regiment, which position he held until the close of the war. He was mustered out of service July 11, 1865. He participated in the battles of Lewinsville, Lee's Mills, Savage Station, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Marye's Heights, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cedar Creek and around Petersburg. He was wounded in the left shoulder by a minie ball at Marye's Heights, May 3, 1863, and at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864, was again wounded, a bullet passing through his right hand.

"Companion Hall was married June 22, 1869, to Miss Semantha E. Stevens, by whom he had two daughters, Agnes Hall Wilson and Rena B. Hall, who with his wife, survive him.

"Soon after the close of the war he received an appointment in the customs service at Island Pond, where he remained until within a few days of his death, except during the administration of President Cleveland. When not engaged in

the customs service he occupied himself in farming and the breeding and training of horses at his farm near the village of Island Pond.

"He was of medium size, fair complexion, soldierly bearing, a brave, competent, reliable soldier, and always in his place. His duties as regimental adjutant were faultlessly performed. He was always cheerful, pleasant and companionable; of easy approach, an enthusiastic optimist, but of positive and uncompromising integrity. As a gentleman and a soldier his character was above reproach.

"In conclusion, we quote the following from an obituary notice of Companion Hall, written by Ex-lieutenant Governor Dale of Island Pond, who was a personal acquaintance: 'As a man he was blithe, and of that various humor that on occasion (and he never let one go by) he was just the man to cheer up a heavy time or give eclat to a lively one. Like all such natures he exhibited nervous relaxation, almost to austerity, but which quickly gave way to bright returns of cheerfulness and snap and jest and lively and humorous conditions. In body and mind he was tasty, agile and faithful in active and efficient resources and devotion to friends and contemptuous of unfriendliness. His designs were clean cut and developed with care, vigilance and thoroughness. He was watchful of the comfort and care of his family, his friends and his business, even to anxiety. He was a valued member of the Masonic fraternity and the Grand Army of the Republic, managing the financial affairs of the former for a great many years with absolute exactness. He was a worker, always zealous and prompt, spurning negligence, rebuking indolence, adjusting irregularities and touching up the electrical currents of the order. A long time in the customs service, his work for neatness, dispatch and accuracy was excelled by that of no other man who has ever been engaged in such work at this port.'"

Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson they spent a year in Rhode Island, Mr. Wilson at that time being still upon the road as a representative of the baking-powder business. Later he traveled in Massachusetts and New York and in 1892 returned to Henry county, where he took up the occupation of farming, renting land from his father. When but a boy he had purchased a thoroughbred heifer and had started his father in the business of breeding and raising fine cattle. After taking up the farm work again he turned his attention to live stock and is now well known as a breeder of thoroughbred shorthorns, having upon his place some very fine animals. He has also made a specialty of breeding and raising high-class poultry. Seeing the need of a more careful selection of seed corn he began to furnish the best that was produced for the class of trade to which its worth would make appeal and is now widely known as a raiser of seed corn, which he ships to various states, both east and west. He produces a number of varieties and dries his corn by kiln. In all of his business he holds to high standards of excellence and his example has been one which has stimulated the efforts of his fellow townsmen, who, seeing the benefits to be derived from the course that he has pursued, have followed in his example.

Four children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. Howard, born on the home farm February 12, 1893, is now a student in the Geneseo high school, from which he will graduate with the class of 1911. Harold E., born on the home farm May 16, 1895, became a high-school student in the fall of 1909.

Edna Ruth, born July 19, 1901, has but recently entered school. Edith Hazel, born March 4, 1903, has also just begun her education.

In politics Mr. Wilson is an independent republican, for, while he usually votes for the men and measures of the republican party, he does not consider himself bound by party ties, and in the exercise of his franchise follows the dictates of his judgment. He has long served as school director, and is a stalwart champion of the cause of education. In 1909 he was made a member of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are widely and favorably known in this section of the county and have a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

---

### JOHN DAVID HILL.

John David Hill, for fifty-four years a resident of Henry county, during which period he was long associated with agricultural interests, is now living retired in Geneseo, deriving a substantial income from valuable farm lands which he still owns. He was born in Rappahannock county, Virginia, March 19, 1843, and is a representative of one of the early families of the Old Dominion. His grandfather, John K. Hill, was likewise a native of that state and at the time of the second serious difficulty with England served as a soldier of the war of 1812. He made farming his life work, devoting his attention to that occupation in Rappahannock county, where he died when well advanced in years. His wife bore the maiden name of Grace Jenkins, and unto them were born a family of four sons and four daughters.

This included William T. Hill, also a native of Virginia, and a farmer by occupation. He married Miss Elizabeth Lockhart, who was born in the same state and was a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Bryan) Lockhart. Her father also was a Virginian planter and died in the prime of life, while his widow long survived. They had a large family, including Mrs. Tabitha Scott; Polly, who became the wife of Albert Jenkins; John W.; Mrs. Elizabeth Hill; Rachel; and Mrs. Matilda Scott. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Hill they resided for some time in the Old Dominion but in 1855 removed to Henry county, Illinois, settling in Cornwall township, where they lived for two years. They then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Munson township, Mr. Hill improving the farm and adding to it as his financial resources permitted until he was at one time the owner of two hundred and eighty acres. During the last few years of his life he regarded Geneseo as his home but spent most of his time in Nebraska. He passed away in Geneseo at the age of seventy-three years, having for nine years survived his wife, who died in Nebraska at the age of sixty-three. Both were consistent members of the Christian church and were people of the highest respectability. Their family numbered seven sons and seven daughters: William J.; John D.; George R.; Sarah E., the wife of George W. Dugdale; Julia F., the deceased wife of Samuel J. Murphy; Edward L.; Rachel V. the wife of Porter Liken; Mary E., the wife of Adam Young; Philip D.; Virginia, the wife of Herman Weidenhoeft; James N.;

Emma P., the wife of James Callender; Stephen R.; and Estella L., who became the wife of William Lane.

John D. Hill was a lad of twelve years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Henry county. They drove a team from Virginia, it requiring thirty days to make the trip and thus the youth of Mr. Hill was passed on farms in the Old Dominion and in Illinois. His educational privileges were those offered by the district schools, and he continued in active work on the home farm until the 15th of August, 1862, when he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for almost three years. He took part in several important engagements and was wounded in the battle of Knoxville. He was also present in the fighting at Chattanooga, Atlanta, Franklin and Fort Fisher, being under command of General Sherman until they reached Atlanta. For eighteen months he acted as color bearer of his regiment and thus was in the thickest of the fight, for the fire of the enemy is usually directed against the flag.

When the war was over Mr. Hill returned home and for a time was employed by the month at farm work, after which he engaged in the cultivation of rented land for eight years. During that period he carefully saved his earnings and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Iowa, which he subsequently traded for an improved tract of eighty acres in Cambridge township, Henry county, Illinois. Two years later he sold that property and bought another farm in Munson township. In 1892 he made purchase of his father's old homestead, which then contained two hundred and eighty acres. He still owns the property and has added to it until his landed possessions now aggregate four hundred acres. As the years passed he carefully, systematically and successfully carried on farming until February, 1893, when he put aside the more arduous duties of agricultural life and removed to Geneseo, where he purchased and remodeled a residence which is now one of the beautiful homes of the city.

Mr. Hill has been married twice. On the 30th of September, 1868, he wedded Miss Esther E. Ayres, a daughter of Buenos and Sarah (Osborn) Ayres. Her death occurred February 6, 1900, when she was fifty-five years of age. On the 30th of July, 1901, Mr. Hill married Miss Augusta Ayres, a daughter of Orlando B. and Anna Louvina (Stone) Ayres. There are two children of that union: Helen Estella and John David. Mrs. Hill was born in Knoxville, Iowa, September 25, 1868, while her parents were natives of Ohio. She was a granddaughter of Buenos Ayres, a native of Massachusetts, who in early life learned and followed the carpenter's trade but later gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He came to Geneseo in 1854 and aided in building the Congregational church at this place. Subsequently he took up farming in Munson township, carrying on his business there on an extensive scale. His death occurred in Geneseo when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-six years. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Hill was Truman Stone, a native of New York, whence he removed to Canada and subsequently became a resident of Iowa, casting in his lot with the early settlers of Marion county, that state, where he died when more than eighty years of age. His wife, in her maidenhood Louvina

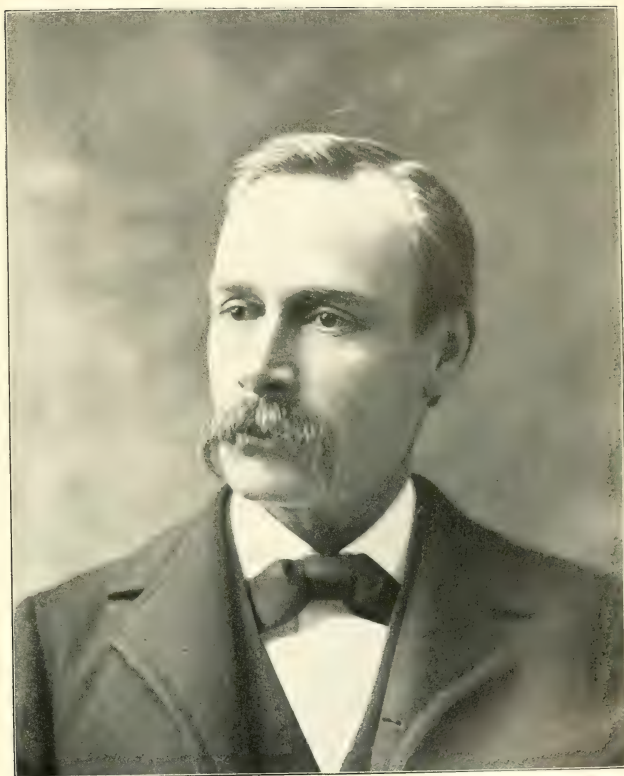
North, was sixty years of age at the time of her demise. They were the parents of six sons and a daughter.

Orlando B. Ayres, father of Mrs. Hill, came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1854, and her mother, then Anna Louvina Stone, removed to Iowa about the same time from Coshocton, Ohio. They were married in Knoxville, Iowa, where they resided for about a quarter of a century and then removed to Des Moines, where Mrs. Ayres still makes her home. Orlando B. Ayres, however, passed away in San Diego, California, in March, 1900, at the age of sixty-three years. He practiced law for about forty years and for two decades was in partnership with his brother-in-law, Governor William Stone. He was recognized as one of the distinguished attorneys of his state and for one term served as judge of the fifth judicial circuit of Iowa. He became recognized as a leading factor in financial and business circles as well as in his profession and was vice president of the Bankers Life Insurance Company from its organization. He left the bench to become president of the Iowa State Fire Insurance Company. Unto him and his wife were born eight sons and two daughter: Edward; Helen, the wife of C. C. Miles of Des Moines; Augusta, the wife of John D. Hill, of Geneseo; William; Orlando; George; Ransom; Arthur; Sheldon; and Warren. In his fraternal relations Mr. Hill is a Mason, belonging to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and to Jenkins Post, G. A. R. His wife belongs to the Congregational church and they are both greatly esteemed for many sterling traits of character. Mr. Hill is now serving as alderman from the fourth ward. He is now largely independent in his political affiliation as he does not care to be bound by party ties, but votes as his judgment dictates. For more than a half century he has been a resident of the county and has there witnessed much of its growth and progress as the railway lines have been extended, as its telegraph and telephone systems have been built, as its farms have been cultivated and its towns improved. In the work of general development he has been keenly interested and through his own active life contributed much to agricultural progress. His record, too, is another proof of the fact that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously, for through straightforward business methods, which neither seek nor require disguise, Mr. Hill has reached the plane of affluence.

---

#### WILLIAM RINGLE.

For fifty-two years William Ringle has lived in Henry county and, retiring from agricultural life, took up his abode in Cambridge where he is now the senior member of the firm of William Ringle & Company, grain buyers and owners of an elevator. He is also the vice president of the First National Bank and is widely recognized as a man of affairs who wields a wide influence. His birth occurred in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, March 6, 1847, his parents being Joseph and Mary (Whitesell) Ringle, who were also natives of the Keystone state. The paternal grandfather was Mathias Ringle and he too was born in Pennsylvania when it was still numbered among the colonial possessions of Great



WILLIAM RINGLE



Britain. When the yoke of British oppression became intolerable and the colonists made the attempt to sever all allegiance with the crown he was in hearty sympathy with the movement and served for eight years in the army which won American independence. He was with Washington during the memorable winter at Valley Forge where the American troops underwent untold hardships and he participated in many of the long campaigns and hotly contested battles of the war. He was of German descent and died in Pennsylvania when well advanced in years. The maternal grandfather of our subject passed away in the Keystone state at the advanced age of ninety-two years after devoting his active business life to farming.

Joseph Ringle, the father of William Ringle, was a farmer and dairyman and came to Illinois in 1857, settling in Munson township, Henry county, where he purchased eighty acres of land to which he afterward added one hundred and sixty acres. Upon this he reared his family and greatly improved the property, making it a valuable farm. He died at the home of his son William in Osco township, his wife surviving him for several years. Both were members of the Presbyterian church. Their family numbered seven children who yet survive: James; Katharine, the wife of Harrison Moore; John; Louisa, the wife of Andrew J. Combs; William; Mary, the wife of John Sherrard and David W. Of this family John Ringle served for three years as a soldier in the Civil war with the Ninth Illinois Cavalry.

William Ringle was a lad of only ten years when he accompanied his parents to this county and upon his father's farm his youthful days were passed in the free and untrammelled life of the fields. He attended the district schools and the Orion Prairie Home Academy, while his business training was received under the direction of his father who assigned to him such farm duties as his age and strength permitted. He resolved to make his life work the occupation to which he had been reared and with one horse he started out for himself on a tract of rented land. For several years he continued to cultivate farms which he leased but during that period carefully saved all that he made above necessary expenses and eventually was enabled to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land in Osco township. He still owns that property and has made other investments until his possessions in this county aggregate three hundred and twenty acres. While in Grant county, Minnesota, he owns six hundred and forty acres. He continued to reside on his farm in Osco township until the spring of 1909, when he removed to Cambridge. He is now the senior partner of the firm of William Ringle & Company, owners of a large elevator and conducting an extensive business in grain. He also has voice in the management of the First National Bank at Cambridge, being its vice president.

On the 23d of October, 1873, Mr. Ringle was married to Miss Ellen E. Welton, whose birth occurred near Henry, Illinois. Her parents, Lester C. and Ora (Welton) Welton were natives of Connecticut and, coming to Henry county at an early day, settled near Osco. Her father was one of the foremost men of the township in pioneer times and took an important part in shaping its policy and promoting its growth. Both he and his wife died in Hutchinson, Kansas, and were laid to rest in the cemetery there. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters: James, Merritt, Helen and Margaret.

In his political views William Ringle is a republican and for several terms served as supervisor and in other township offices. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. Mrs. Ringle is a member of the Episcopal church while Mr. Ringle is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Ringle is well known as a man of integrity, of business ability, of keen insight and of public spirit so that his words carry weight in matters of vital importance to the community and he is widely recognized as a most influential and progressive citizen.

---

#### KATE E. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

Well equipped for the life work she has undertaken, Dr. Kate E. Armstrong is winning substantial success in the active practice of medicine. She was born in Wethersfield township, a daughter of John and Jean (Rule) Armstrong. The father is a farmer by occupation and still resides upon a good farm in Wethersfield township, but the mother passed away in 1888.

Dr. Armstrong spent her girlhood days in her parents' home, pursued her early education in the country schools, afterward attended the high school at Kewanee and then completed her literary education in Knox College at Galesburg. Her professional training was received in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and thus in broad and practical experience of hospital practice she gained knowledge and ability that well qualified her to enter independently upon the profession she had chosen as a life work. In 1908 she opened an office in Kewanee, where she has since engaged in general practice of medicine and surgery, and although her residence here covers but two years she has already done good work and secured a gratifying patronage. She is a member of the Physicians Club of Kewanee, the Henry County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and through these connections keeps in close touch with the work that is being done by the fraternity. Her religious faith is that of the Prebyterian church and in the social circles of the city she has won many warm and enduring friends.

---

#### THE KEWANEE NATIONAL BANK.

One of the most substantial financial institutions of Henry county and of this part of the state, is the Kewanee National Bank, which was organized in 1893, with George A. Anthony, as president; D. K. Fell, vice president; R. E. Taylor, cashier; and R. O. Becker, assistant cashier. It was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars all paid in, and the success of the business is indicated in the fact that in 1907 the capital stock was increased to seventy-five thousand dollars, while the surplus now amounts to sixty-five thousand dollars. The officers are the same as when organized, with the exception of E. J. Faull, who is now

assistant cashier, and in connection with the officers Dr. W. H. Cole, A. Hallin, W. B. McClure, Ed G. Green and Dr. John H. Oliver, are members of the board of directors. In 1902 a savings department was added and three per cent interest is paid on savings accounts. In the year 1909 about three hundred safety deposit boxes were installed. These are specially constructed in a vault with all modern equipment and the bank is supplied with every modern accessory that makes it a well appointed institution. The company owns its own bank building, a brick structure with stone front, twenty-five by sixty-four feet and three stories in height with basement. The second floor is utilized for offices while club rooms are on the third floor. The report of the Kewanee National Bank made April 28, 1909, shows the institution to be in excellent condition and the safe, conservative policy which was inaugurated at the outset has always been maintained and merits the support of the general public.

---

### JOHN ROGERS.

John Rogers, successfully devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, was born on the farm where he now resides on section 28, Cambridge township, his natal day being September 8, 1876. His father, Joseph Rogers, was born in Ohio, and his mother, Mary (Eaton) Rogers, was a native of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather, John Rogers, who was likewise born in the Buckeye state, came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1853, and took up his abode in Burns township. The farm which he there purchased remained his place of residence until he passed away at a ripe old age. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Joseph; Edward; Jacob; Tena, the wife of Frank Taylor, of Tecumseh, Nebraska; Edith, the wife of Coe Corwin, of Burns township; and several who died in infancy. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Hugh Eaton, whose birth occurred in the north of Ireland, was of Scotch-Irish descent. In early manhood he wedded Miss Phebe Munson and they became pioneer settlers of Burns township, this county. They were both well advanced in years when called to their final rest. Their family numbered fourteen children, namely: Mary, Susan, Stephen, James, George, William, Oscar, Matilda, Margaret, Anna, Caroline and three who died in early life.

Joseph Rogers, the father of John Rogers, was brought to this county by his parents in his infancy, while the lady who afterward became his wife accompanied her parents to Henry county when a maiden of fourteen years. They were reared and married in Burns township and began their domestic life in Cambridge township, where Joseph Rogers purchased the farm of eighty acres which remained his place of residence throughout the remainder of his life. As the years passed by and his financial resources increased, owing to his untiring industry and capable management, he extended the boundaries of his farm by addition purchases until it embraced about seven hundred acres of rich and productive land. He gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and in addition to cultivating the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate, also raised, bought and shipped stock on an extensive

scale. For more than thirty years, he made his home within the borders of this county and was widely recognized as one of its most successful and respected citizens. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, while his religious belief was indicated by his membership in the Baptist church, in the faith of which he passed away on the 5th of November, 1905, when fifty-four years of age. His widow still survives and makes her home in Cambridge at the present time. She formerly belonged to the Christian church but now holds membership in the Baptist church. She is the mother of two sons and two daughters, as follows: John, of this review; Phebe C.; Clara E., the wife of Leonard Johnson, of Cambridge township; and Frank M., living in Cambridge.

John Rogers was reared on the old homestead farm of his father and has continued to reside thereon to the present time. At the usual age he began his education in the district schools and subsequently pursued his studies in the Cambridge high school. The duties and labors incident to the operation of a farm had early become familiar to him through the assistance which he rendered his father in the cultivation of the fields, and after putting aside his text-books he took up farming as a life work. Energetic, progressive and enterprising, he is meeting with well merited success in his labors as an agriculturist and has gained favorable recognition among the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

On the 28th of December, 1898, Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Miss Frances N. White, whose birth occurred in Ophiem, Lynn township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 30th of July, 1877. Her parents, Robert and Elizabeth (Neal) White, both of whom were natives of England, became early settlers of Henry county, this state. They first took up their abode in Cambridge township, later located in Lynn township and in 1885 established their home in Woodhull, Clover township, where they still reside. Of their family of twelve children, ten reached years of maturity, namely: Mary, the wife of John Atkinson, of Caldwell, Kansas; Sarah, the deceased wife of William Corp; William, who is living on the home place in Clover township; John, a resident of Knox county, Illinois; Maria, the wife of E. Nelson, of Moline; Lena Angeline, the wife of Isaac Snow, of Munson township; Ethel, who is the wife of Logan Stiers and resides near Alpha; Alice, of Woodhull; Leslie A., of Galesburg; and Mrs. Rogers. James White, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Rogers, was a native of England but became a pioneer settler of this county. His demise occurred in Lynn township when he had attained the venerable age of about eighty-one years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rose Smith, was ninety-four years of age when called to her final rest. Their children were six in number: Mary, Sarah, Maria, Charlotte, Thomas and Robert. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Rogers was Stephen Neal, a native of England, where he passed away in middle life. His wife, Mrs. Eliza Neal, was about forty-five years old at the time of her demise. Unto them were born eight children: Stephen, Ann, Eliza, John, Thomas, William, Sarah and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have become the parents of eight children, namely: Clyde H., Alice Fern, Mabel May, Joseph White, Raymond D. and three who died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. Rogers is a republican and at the present time is doing valuable service for the cause of education as a school director. He is a Methodist in religious faith, and both he and his wife are devoted members of that church. They have a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the county in which they have always resided and are highly esteemed as worthy representatives of honored pioneer families, whose labors contributed in large measure to the early development and upbuilding of this part of the state.

---

### WILLIAM H. ATWOOD.

William H. Atwood, who for many years was identified with farming interests in Henry county but is now living retired in Geneseo, was born in New London on the Erie canal, in Oneida county, New York, April 29, 1838. His parents were Bachus and Sarah (Tuttle) Atwood. They, too, were natives of the Empire state and resided in the east until 1855, when they removed to Henry county, Illinois, where they remained until called to their final rest. The father died when more than seventy years of age, and the mother, who was born in 1820, passed away in 1861. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters: William H.; Almarette, who is the widow of Newell S. Smith and resides in Rockford, Illinois; Judson M.; Jerome N.; and Sarah Ann, the wife of James Wright.

William H. Atwood remained a resident of Oneida county, New York, until about seventeen years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Henry county, Illinois. He has since lived here, covering a period of more than a half century, and during this time has witnessed a remarkable transformation, for at the time of his arrival the district was largely undeveloped and unimproved, while its homes were of a primitive character. There came to the county, however, a substantial class of enterprising citizens, who recognized the opportunities offered in the natural resources of the county and earnestly set to work to establish homes here and conduct business interests, which should prove a source of profit. William H. Atwood became connected with the farming interests of the county, being at first employed at farm labor by the month. He carefully saved his earnings and after a few years was thus enabled to purchase a tract of eighty acres in Munson township. It was raw prairie, but he at once began its development and cultivation, and soon the fields were bringing forth rich harvests. It was upon that farm that he reared his family and there resided until 1901, when he removed to Geneseo, where he and his wife now make their home. He still owns his well improved farm, however, and derives therefrom a good annual income.

On the 23d of August, 1863, Mr. Atwood was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Olson, who was born February 4, 1842, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Caroline (Carlson) Olson. They were both natives of Sweden and on coming to America in 1847 they settled in Mercer county, Illinois. The father

was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death occurred in 1852, when he was fifty-six years of age. His widow survived for some time and passed away in her sixty-seventh year. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters: John P. Olson; Matilda, the wife of Charles Hero; Andrew Olson; and Mrs. Louisa Atwood. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have been born a son and daughter, Charles H. and Adelia. The latter was married on Wednesday, January 6, 1892, to Henry Smith, of Osco township, and they now reside in Geneseo. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Christian church and is well known socially.

The son, Charles H. Atwood, was reared on the old home farm in this county, and after attending the district schools to acquaint himself with the elementary branches of learning, he continued his education in the Geneseo Normal. He then remained on the old homestead until he had attained his majority, after which he accepted a position as traveling salesman and thus served for four years. He then followed farming for five years, after which he took up his abode in Geneseo and purchased the laundry formerly owned by Jacob Winans. He has continued the business since 1901, or for a period of eight years, and has a well equipped plant, while efficient help enables him to turn out excellent work that insures him a liberal patronage.

In 1902 Charles H. Atwood was married to Miss Lieugora O'Meara, a daughter of Michael and Mary O'Meara. Mrs. Atwood is a member of the Catholic church. By this marriage there are two children: Mary Louise and Royce Henry. Mr. Atwood belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M. He is in hearty sympathy with the purposes of the craft which finds its basic element and belief in universal brotherhood. He belongs also to the Christian church and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. While not an active politician in the sense of office seeking he has served as alderman from the first ward and is interested in all that pertains to the municipal welfare and substantial progress of Geneseo.

---

### JOHN T. CUMMINGS.

John T. Cummings, attorney at law, practicing at the Kewanee bar as junior partner of the firm of Wilson & Cummings, was born in Mount Vernon, Ohio, on the 26th of October, 1866. His parents were William and Mary (Cassiday) Cummings. The father, a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois in 1867, establishing his home at Oregon, Ogle county. There John T. Cummings was reared, and the public schools afforded him his early educational privileges, while later he attended the Teachers Training School in Oregon. He then taught school for two years, after which he attended the Northern Illinois Normal College at Dixon, Illinois, and was graduated therefrom with the class of 1889. When his literary course was completed he turned his attention to the study of law for he had regarded the teacher's preparation but as a stepping-stone to other labor. In June, 1895, he was admitted to the bar following the completion of a course in the Kent College of Law in Chicago. He not only had the theoretical train-

ing but also the practical experience which came to him from his connection, in a clerical capacity, with the law firm of Bangs, Wood & Bangs, of Chicago, during his college days. Following his graduation he practiced law in the Illinois metropolis for four years in connection with A. J. Redmond and then returned to Oregon, following his profession in that city and in Rochelle, Illinois, until 1903, when he came to Kewanee. Here he entered into a partnership with F. J. Tilton under the firm style of Cummings & Tilton, which existed until 1907. In that year he became a partner of Judge C. C. Wilson, and the firm of Wilson & Cummings has since engaged in general practice with a large and distinctly representative clientage connecting them with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of the district. McCummings does not fear that laborious attention to the case which must always precede its presentation in the courts, his preparation being most thorough and exhaustive. He is forceful in argument, logical in his deductions and his application of legal principles indicates the clearness of his judgment relative to the principles of jurisprudence.

Mr. Cummings is a member of the Kewanee Bar Association. He is also a trustee of the Knights of Columbus, and his religious faith is that of Catholicism, his membership being in the church of the Visitation.

---

#### EDWARD C. WEINRICH.

Edward C. Weinrich, of Geneseo, is a member of the firm of F., E. & G. Weinrich, horse breeders and farmers. His birth occurred in Geneseo township, Henry county, Illinois, May 20, 1869, and as the name indicates he is of German lineage. His parents, William and Christina (Kipping) Weinrich, were both natives of Germany, and, crossing the Atlantic to America, William Wienrich settled first in St. Louis, where he lived for several years. He afterward came to Henry county, Illinois, about 1852 and for a time resided in Geneseo, but, turning his attention to general agricultural pursuits, he purchased and improved one hundred and sixty acres of land in Geneseo township. It was railroad land when he took possession of it, but he broke the sod, harrowed the fields, planted the seed and in due course of time brought forth rich crops. Year after year he carefully tilled the soil until he retired from active farming and removed to Geneseo in 1892. There his remaining days were passed, his death occurring in 1901, when he was seventy-five years of age. His wife survived him for about five years and passed away in February, 1906, at the age of seventy-five years. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were loyal to the teachings of that denomination. Mr. Weinrich served as a school director while living on the farm but was never ambitious to seek or hold office. In the family were six sons and four daughters: Emma, now the wife of G. C. Zimmerman; Clara, deceased; Christina; Fred W.; William; Matilda, the wife of Matthew O'Connell; Edward C.; George; Charles, who is deceased; and Herman.

Edward C. Weinrich was reared as a farm boy and in his youthful days attended the district school. He lived with his parents until he reached adult age, and then he started out in life for himself by working as a farm hand by

the month. He and his brother George afterward cultivated the father's farm until his death, at which time Edward, George and Herman Weinrich purchased the old homestead, which they still own and cultivate together. They are well known as representative farmers and active business men in this locality. In addition to their farming interests Fred, Edward and George conduct a large breeding barn in Geneseo and own a number of registered Percheron and standard bred trotters. They are doing business on an extensive scale, being known as among the leading breeders of this part of the state. They also own a Dan Patch colt on the farm. Their trotters all have good records and have been sired by some of the most celebrated horses in the country.

Fred Weinrich married Otilia Barts. He owns and cultivates a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Munson township and raises high-grade chickens in addition to his interests in the horse breeding business. Of the other brothers, William married Agnes Winters and George Married Anna Glowe, while Edward C. and Herman are still single. The brothers are representative business men, who carefully watch the indications pointing to success and so conduct their interests as to secure good financial results. The family has been represented in the county for a long period for the father was one of the early settlers.

---

#### WILLIAM WEIMER.

Pleasantly situated in Geneseo, living in one of the attractive homes of the city, is William Weimer, a retired farmer whose life history is a notable example of what may be accomplished through determination and energy. Though he started out in life empty-handed, when sixteen years of age and comparatively without educational advantages, he has become one of the extensive landowners of this part of the state, placing his money in that safest of all investments—real estate. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, May 29, 1837, his parents being Jonathan and Susan (Berger) Weimer, who were natives of Pennsylvania. Their family numbered eleven children, three sons and eight daughters, but only two are now living, Israel Weimer, of Geneseo, being the younger brother of our subject. The father made farming his life work, and believing that the great prairie district of the Mississippi valley offered better opportunities than could be secured in the east, he came to Illinois in the fall of 1853, settling in Henry county. Here he died a few years later at the age of seventy-eight. His wife survived him for twelve years and passed away when about seventy-seven years of age. In the east they were members of the Dunkard's society.

William Weimer spent the first sixteen years of his life in the Keystone state, where he was reared to the work of the farm. Owing to the limited financial resources of his parents he was deprived of educational privileges, as it was necessary that he assist in the work of the fields. As a youth he was industrious and thoughtful, and these qualities have characterized his entire life. With his parents he came to Illinois and lived at home until he had attained his majority, when he started out upon an independent business career working by the month



WILLIAM WEIMER



as a farm hand for four years. He decided, however, that his labors should more directly benefit himself, and for a year thereafter he engaged in the cultivation of a rented farm. He bought seed wheat and a team of horses and sowed forty acres of wheat, also thirty acres to oats, but it was a wet season, and he lost his crop and became in debt. He then had to work two years by the month to discharge his financial obligations, but he did not allow this experience to discourage him, knowing that determination and energy will in time overcome all difficulties and obstacles.

Soon afterward Mr. Weimer was married and started out in business life anew. He was fortunate in his choice of a wife, for she proved a most faithful companion and helpmate to him on life's journey. After a time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Geneseo township, which was wild and unimproved. He built a house thereon and began the development of his fields, making his home on that farm from 1861 until 1890. He added to that until he owned seven hundred acres, a part of which he has since sold, but from time to time he has invested in land in Kansas in partnership with his son until they have between eleven thousand and twelve thousand acres in the Sunflower state, and also nine sections of land in Colorado. He has achieved this by carefully watching expenses and by utilizing every advantage. He has watched for opportunities for good investments and has wisely placed his money so that he derives therefrom a substantial income at the present time.

On the 6th of October, 1862, Mr. Weimer was married to Miss Susan Keller, a daughter of David and Catharine (Arnett) Keller. They became parents of eight children: Emma C., the eldest, married Winfield Cressner and resides on the old Weimer homestead, and they have five children: Earl, Edith, Elvin, Esther, and Huen. W. Albert, of Geneseo, married Ella Tilford, and they have five children: Harry, Harley, Frank, Eva and Iva. Minnie is the wife of John De Linn, and they had four children, of whom three are now living: William, Glen and Don. Edith is the wife of William Hippler, of Geneseo, and they have three children: Mabel, Irene and Claude. Frank died when sixteen years old. Bertie is the wife of L. K. Thompson, a resident of Bismarck, North Dakota. Susan is the wife of Edward Coe, who is living in Los Angeles, California, and they have two sons: Reuben and Rowland. The youngest child of the family died in infancy. The mother, Mrs. Susan Weimer, died August 12, 1880, when about thirty-six years of age. Mr. Weimer afterward wedded Miss Paulina Stenzel, a daughter of John and Augusta (Hollaz) Stenzel, and they have two children: Jesse and Nellie.

In 1890 Mr. Weimer removed to Geneseo and built a beautiful home on North State street, where he still resides. He has also erected another fine residence in the city. Politically he is a democrat and has served as school director and road commissioner. He has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, however, but has been preeminently a man of affairs and one who has wielded a wide influence. He is numbered among the old settlers of the county and has lived to witness notable changes since he arrived here about fifty-five years ago. Within this period practically all of the land has been brought under cultivation, the wild prairies being transformed into rich fields, while here and there flourishing towns have been built, and all the advantages

known to the older east have been introduced. The present home of Mr. Weimer is in great contrast to that in which he began his domestic life. He was for a time in extreme poverty owing to the failure of crops, which threw him in debt and left him to start out anew. Brooking no obstacle that could be overcome by persistent and earnest effort, he has worked his way steadily upward, and the splendid record which he has made is one well worthy of emulation, for he is now numbered with the men of affluence in Henry county, and is one of the most extensive landowners of this part of the state.

---

#### HOWARD A. DEMING.

Nature seems to have intended that man shall enjoy a season of rest in the evening of life, for in youth one's energies and ambition are tuned to a high pitch. In mature years these qualities are guided by sound judgment, which makes enterprise effective and labor a forceful factor in the attainment of success. Thus when the years are wisely used it is possible to retire in later life and enjoy a rest which has been truly earned and is richly merited. Such has been the record of Mr. Deming, who diligently pursued farm work for many years but is now living retired in Geneseo. He was born in Brunswick, Medina county, Ohio, September 25, 1837, and is a son of Charles R. and Eliza P. (Alden) Deming, who were natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively. The former was a son of Andrew Deming, who was also born in the old Bay state. His ancestors, however, came from England in 1635 and planted the family on American soil. Andrew Deming was a farmer by occupation and in 1816 removed from New England to Ohio, settling in Medina county, where he resided until 1840, when he took up his abode near Ashland, Ohio, where he died at the age of sixty-six years. He was always known as Major Deming. He married Elizabeth Mather, and they reared a large family. The maternal grandfather of Howard A. Deming was Howard Alden, a native of New England, who became a physician of Suffield. He died there October 17, 1841—on the eighty-first anniversary of his birth. His wife was Rhoda Williston, who was born January 10, 1768, and died November 7, 1863. The father of Howard Alden was Jonathan Alden, who served for a brief period in the Revolutionary war. The ancestry of the family is directly traceable to John and Priscilla Alden, whose romantic story constitutes the basis of Longfellow's poem, "The Courtship of Miles Standish."

Charles R. Deming accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio when fifteen years of age and became a merchant of that state. He went from Brunswick to Ashland, Ohio, at the age of eighteen and in the latter city engaged in clerking for a time. He afterward went to Orange, Ohio, where he established a dry-goods business on his own account, remaining there for several years. Subsequently he returned to Ashland, where he carried on general merchandising for fifteen years and at the same time handled lumber and wool. About 1849 he made a trip to Illinois and purchased land in Henry county but continued to engage in the wool business in Ohio for some years thereafter. In 1865 he took

up his abode in Henry county, Illinois, and from that time until his death was associated with the business and public interests in this part of the state. He had entered land from the government in Atkinson and Geneseo township and also secured other tracts through land warrants granted for service in the war of 1812. Altogether he entered about two thousand acres, some of it for other parties. He lived in Geneseo until 1881 and then went to make his home with his son Howard on the farm. He was not only extensively engaged in business as a landowner and dealer but was also very prominent in community affairs, aiding in establishing the destiny and molding the policy of this part of the state. For two terms he represented his district in Ohio in the state legislature. His death occurred in 1903, when he was in his ninety-ninth year, while his wife passed away June 23, 1881, at the age of seventy-eight years. In early life she was a Presbyterian in religious faith but after removing to Henry county united with the Congregational church. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters: William A., deceased; Susan, the widow of Isaiah Goodfellow, of Geneseo; Howard A., of this review; and Hattie E., the wife of F. A. Trauger, a resident of Geneseo. The first born, Newton, died at the age of two years.

Howard A. Deming resided in Ohio to the age of sixteen years, his home being in Ashland during the last thirteen years of that time. He came to Geneseo in 1854. He brought with him some horses sent by his father, and he and his uncle, Richard Deming, conducted a livery stable together for a year. He then returned to Ohio, while his uncle continued the business for several years thereafter. In 1856 Howard Deming again came to Geneseo but after a few weeks went to Winona, Minnesota, where he remained for eight months, and then again went to Ohio. In 1859 he was married in Ashland county, Ohio, and the same year returned with his bride to Henry county, building a home in Geneseo, which he kept until April 1, 1865. He then removed to his farm in Geneseo township, five miles northeast of the city, owning there four hundred and eighty acres of land. He improved the property, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and adding all of the accessories and equipments of a model farm. Year by year he carefully carried on his work with the result that he achieved prosperity, and he remained upon the farm until November 4, 1896, when he took up his abode in Geneseo. He still owns two hundred and forty acres of land, and in the town he has a beautiful residence, which he erected in 1896, at the corner of Mechanic and Pearl streets.

It was on the 25th of October, 1859, that the marriage of Mr. Deming and Miss Celesta Willard was celebrated, so that they have now traveled life's journey together for a half century. She was born in Conneaut, Ohio, May 6, 1841, a daughter of Luman and Emily (Bacon) Willard, both of whom were natives of New York. Her paternal grandparents were Asa and Sarah Willard of Vermont, while her maternal grandparents were James and Comfort (Eastman) Bacon, who were born near Hartford, Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Deming have two sons and a daughter. Edward, an artist living in New York, married Theresa Osterheld, and they have four children, Alden O., Catherine, Henrietta Hall and John Willard. Gail E., a lawyer living in Chicago, married Harriet Barrett; Grace, the youngest of the family, is at home. The parents are members of the

Congregational church, and Mr. Deming belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M. His political support is given to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have never had attraction for him, as he has always preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and in the careful direction of his farming interests has met with success.

---

### SEYMOUR S. THOMAS.

Seymour S. Thomas, an honored veteran of the Civil war, has been a resident of Cambridge since 1886 and is now living retired. His birth occurred in Chillicothe, Peoria county, Illinois, on the 23d of March, 1847, his parents being Thomas and Isabel (Norris) Thomas, both of whom were born in Ohio. The paternal grandfather, Thomas Thomas, was a native of Virginia and a farmer by occupation. Leaving the Old Dominion, he located near Zanesville, Ohio, and afterward became one of the early settlers of Peoria, Illinois, erecting one of the first brick buildings in that city. He was successfully engaged in the conduct of a grocery and dry-goods store at Peoria until he passed away at an old age. He was twice married, and his first wife, Mrs. Isabel Thomas, was the grandmother of our subject. His second wife, Mrs. Jane Thomas, was a native of Ireland and lived to a ripe old age. Thomas Thomas had a family of seven children, namely: Daniel, Stephen, John, Thomas, Alexander, Jane and Cynthia. The maternal grandfather of Seymour S. Thomas died in Virginia.

Thomas Thomas, the father of Mr. Thomas of this review, followed merchandising throughout his active business career. He became an early settler of Peoria and later took up his abode in Chillicothe, Illinois, where he conducted a grocery store. His demise there occurred in 1866 when he was about fifty-five years of age. For a short time he had loyally defended the interests of the Union as a soldier in the Civil war. Both he and his wife were devoted and consistent members of the Baptist church, and the latter was called to her final rest in 1854 at the age of thirty-five years. Unto them were born five children, three sons and two daughters, as follows: Isaac deceased; Seymour S., of this review; James K., a resident of Chillicothe; Sarah Jane, who has also passed away; and Asenith, the wife of Levi Thorndyke, of Nebraska.

Seymour S. Thomas was reared in the place of his nativity and there received his early education in the common schools. After putting aside his text-books he lived with a man named John Gates until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted for three years' service as a member of Company H, Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In 1864 he reenlisted in the same company and regiment and later was transferred to the United States Military Secret Service, Department of the West, with which he remained until the close of hostilities. He was wounded at the battle of Jackson, Mississippi, and subsequently lost his right eye while on picket duty in the campaign from Black River to Meridian, Mississippi, the vision of his other eye being also impaired. In that campaign he was also struck in the shoulder with a bullet. Only sixty-six out of the entire regiment escaped, the rest being killed, wounded or taken prisoner. Mr. Thomas

fought in many of the important battles of the war, including those at Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing, Corinth and the siege of Vicksburg and likewise took part in innumerable skirmishes. When he enlisted at the age of fifteen years he entered the ranks of a private, later became corporal and then sergeant and when he was transferred to the secret service was made first lieutenant. When the country no longer needed his aid he returned to Chillicothe, where he was married and worked at the blacksmith's trade for a time. The year 1886 witnessed his arrival in Cambridge, Henry county, and here he followed various pursuits until 1904, when he became totally blind and has since lived retired. He receives a good pension from the government and is widely recognized as one of the substantial and respected citizens of the community.

On the 27th of October, 1870, Mr. Thomas was united in marriage to Miss Marilla Seely, a native of South Hampton, Peoria county, Illinois, and a daughter of William and Adelia (Stackhouse) Seely, who were born in Vermont but became pioneer settlers of Peoria county, this state. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, later removed to Chillicothe, where he died in 1873 at the age of sixty-three years. His wife subsequently came to Cambridge, here passing away in 1885, when in the seventy-ninth year of her age. Their family numbered six children, namely: Almira, the wife of William Blossom; Emma, the wife of A. H. Ramy; Mrs. Thomas; Mary, the wife of Henry Ridenour; Ida May, who gave her hand in marriage to George Beresford; and Lilly L., who is the wife of H. A. Lukens. Benjamin Stackhouse, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Thomas, was a native of Vermont and became a resident of the state of Pennsylvania, where he following farming as a means of livelihood. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born two children. The eldest, Minnie A., who passed away in 1908, was the wife of Robert L. Boyd, by whom she had a daughter, Mildred Evelyn Boyd. M. Louise Thomas is employed in a store at Princeton, Illinois.

Mr. Thomas gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and for six or eight years capably discharged the duties devolving upon him as postmaster at Nebraska, Illinois. He was made a Mason in Mississippi during the Civil war and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and Cambridge Post, G. A. R. His wife is a faithful member of the Methodist church, in the work of which she is deeply and helpfully interested. In every relation of life he has manifested those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime command confidence and awaken regard and is therefore well worthy the esteem which is uniformly accorded him.

---

#### BERNARD KIRLEY.

Bernard Kirley who during the years of an active business life was a prominent factor in the development of mining interests and real estate operations in Henry county, owed his success entirely to his own efforts. He came to this county without a dollar and died the possessor of thousands. His record of intelligently directed labors and carefully formulated plans constituted an example

that is indeed worthy of emulation. He was born in Ireland, March 10, 1838, acquiring his education in the schools of that country, and came to America at the age of eighteen years. He at once made his way to Kewanee where he arrived on the 30th of June, 1856. Here he sought and obtained employment as a miner, but laudable ambition prompted him to seek the opportunities of engaging in business for himself and after two years he began mining coal on his own account. He then operated mines in this part of the state for over twenty years. He made a great deal of money and by careful investments secured a position among the most substantial citizens of Kewanee. At the time of his death he had accumulated considerable property and was a director of the Kewanee National bank.

On the 8th of February, 1867, Mr. Kirley was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Moore, a native of Long Island, New York, and a daughter of William and Catherine Moore, who arrived in Kewanee in 1857. Shortly after his arrival he established his home on a farm and now resides in Kewanee township, having been for many years one of the leading and honored agriculturists of the community. He has reached the venerable age of eighty-seven years, while his wife is eighty-four years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Kirley have become the parents of seven children, namely: Kathryn, at home; William H., who is conducting a billiard hall in Kewanee; Philip J., engaged in the coal business; Mary and Elizabeth at home; and Bernard and John, who are proprietors of a cigar store.

During the early years of his residence here Mr. Kirley served as a member of the city council and his duties as alderman were discharged in a prompt and progressive manner. He was a Catholic in religious faith and from the inception of the church here was one of its most liberal and generous supporters. In all of his business dealings he was thoroughly reliable and enterprising, his success being the direct outcome of persistent and earnest labor and careful investment. He died July 17, 1902, and the county mourned the loss of one of its valued and representative citizens who resided within its borders for forty-six years. He left to his family not only a handsome competency as the result of his business activity but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name.

---

### JOHN N. PENWELL.

John N. Penwell, who was formerly identified with farming interests and is now devoting his attention to horticultural pursuits in Geneseo, was born in Elkhart, Indiana, March 20, 1838. He is a son of David and Mary L. (Crook) Penwell, both of whom were natives of Erie county, New York. The former was of English lineage, his father having been a native of England, whence he came to America, settling in Erie county. He was a farmer by occupation and spent his last days in Washington, Kansas. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Penwell was Asa Crook and he, too, was a native of England and established his home in Erie county, New York, when he came to the new world. He afterward cast in his lot with the early settlers of Whiteside county, Illinois, and for a number of years conducted a hotel at Prophetstown. Later he removed to

Henry county and engaged in farming in Loraine township. He died when well advanced in years as did his wife, who spent her last days in Atkinson township. They had a large family but only two are now living: Mrs. Cynthia Brown, of Iowa; and Mrs. Laura Matson, who makes her home with her children in Iowa.

David Penwell was reared to farm life and chose that occupation as a source of livelihood when he attained his majority. At an early day he removed to South Bend, Indiana, and afterward went to Iowa, where he died of typhoid fever, when about thirty-two years of age. There were three children granted to him and his wife, but two died in early life, leaving John N. Penwell as the only survivor. The mother married again, becoming the wife of Andrew Thompson Bracken, by whom she had five children, two of whom survive: James L., a banker of Tama City, Iowa; and A. J., of Prophetstown, Illinois.

John N. Penwell was taken to Iowa by his mother when only about a year old. He was a little child of three years when she married again in Prophetstown, Illinois, and he was reared to manhood on a farm in Whiteside county. On the 15th of June, 1861, in response to President Lincoln's first call for seventy-five thousand volunteers, he enlisted in Company D, First Regiment of Nebraska Volunteers, under command of Captain J. C. Potts. He served for two and a half years with the infantry forces and then became a cavalryman, being mustered out as such. He served altogether for three years and three months and was a non-commissioned officer until sent to the St. Louis Hospital because of illness. He took part in thirty-six battles and skirmishes, including the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, Iuka and Cape Girardeau and was also in the ninety-five mile race after the rebel General Price in Arkansas and Texas. He was one of the seven color bearers at Shiloh, where five of the number were killed. When the war was over Mr. Penwell returned to Whiteside county, Illinois, and for two years was in poor health as the result of the rigors and hardships of war. He was then married and turned his attention to farming which he followed in Atkinson township, Henry county, for twenty-four years, having eighty acres of land, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. About 1890 he sold that farm and removed to Geneseo, where he has since made his home. He owns a good residence on South Mechanic street and, as indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature, he devotes his attention to the raising of fine fruit.

On the 16th of June, 1867, Mr. Penwell was united in marriage to Miss Hortense Frances Fones, at Atkinson, Henry county, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. M. R. Odell. Mrs. Penwell was born in Atkinson township and is a daughter of Harry and Sara A. (Mitchell) Fones. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children. Fred B., the elder, was a fine scholar both in English and German. He was born in Geneseo, January 28, 1871, and died October 5, 1895. Harriet G., who was born July 2, 1876, was married November 12, 1895, to George H. Reig and died October 9, 1907. She left four children, a son and three daughters: Fred Leslie, Grace May, Laura and Maude Lorena.

Mr. Penwell belongs to the Congregational church, while his wife is a member of the Christian church. His political allegiance is given to the republican

party, and he served for one term as road commissioner. Fraternally he is connected with Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and belongs also to Jenkins Post, G. A. R. Throughout his entire life he has been as loyal to his duties of citizenship, as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields and thus defended the Union cause.

---

### JOHN H. PETERSON.

John H. Peterson was but a boy when his father's family came to the colony of Bishop Hill, but he had some insight into the struggles that confronted those sturdy men and women, and throughout the period of his early manhood had to toil himself that he might raise the debt with which his land was burdened when the colony was incorporated into a village. The task that was set before him was accomplished through the application of determination united with unremitting industry, and now after having won a generous return from his labors, he has retired to enjoy the rest he so well deserves. The work of the farm, which is upon the outskirts of Bishop Hill, he has passed on to others, but he still makes his home in the house which holds many associations as the result of his own efforts to acquire it. He was born in Westmanland, Sweden, May 6, 1842. His father, Peter Ericson, who was a farmer, came to the United States in 1854 and joined the colony of Bishop Hill, with which he remained for about seven years. A man endowed with gigantic strength, he spent the greater part of his life working in the timber, and upon the dissolution of the colony received sixty-six acres in Galva township, to which he removed in 1861. At that time he was very poor, owing a debt to the colony more than twice the value of his farm, but he was not discouraged and set himself to accomplish the seemingly impossible and until his death, which occurred in his seventy-fifth year, he devoted himself assiduously to the cultivation of the soil.

John H. Peterson was not quite eighteen years of age when his father left the colony, and with a man's realization of the work that lay before him he called into play all his powers, his industry, his ambition and his determination to win success and a fair name from the cultivation of a farm heavily encumbered by debt. On his father's land he lived until 1897, having in the meantime not only cleared its title but also added twenty-nine acres to its area and made a number of valuable improvements which were a credit to his ability and foresight. In 1895 he bought a tract of one hundred and forty acres west of the village of Bishop Hill, to which he removed two years later, leasing the home farm at that time. As for crops, he has raised corn and oats principally, and has also engaged somewhat in the stock business, raising annually from twenty to twenty-five head of cattle and from forty to sixty-five hogs, making a specialty of breeding Normandy hogs. Three years ago he retired from the active life and rents this farm, in addition to the old home one, with the exception of the house, barns and pasture, which he has retained for his own use.



JOHN H. PETERSON AND FAMILY



In Andover township, July 10, 1874, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Johnson, a daughter of Nels Johnson, a farmer of Andover township. Four daughters were born to the couple: Emma, who is the wife of Ed Edson, a farmer of Osco township; and Julia, Esther and May, who are at home. On the 17th of September, 1906, Mrs. Peterson was released from the trials of this world. She was always a devout member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church, being very active in its work, and her life was brought to the close with the knowledge that as a Christian woman she was entitled to all the consolations which her faith was able to afford to those who had lived in obedience to its tenets.

Mr. Peterson has ever been a staunch adherent of the principles of the republican party, evincing a deep interest in local affairs. For three years he served as school director, and was overseer of the highways while that office was elective. He belongs to the Old Settlers Association and few among its members have a greater right to claim affiliation with it, for he knew the struggles and hardships of early days, and the success of his later years entitles him to the proud distinction of being numbered among the self-made men of this republic.

---

### THOMAS H. JOHNSTON.

Thomas H. Johnston, the president of the Johnston Lumber Company, was born in Henry county, Illinois, on the 25th of December, 1865, his parents being John and Lucy M. (Selon) Johnston, the former a native of County Londonderry, Ireland, and the latter of Stark county, Illinois. In 1854 the father came from Connecticut to Illinois, taking up his abode in this county, where he was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1889 and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of friends during the long period of his residence here.

Thomas H. Johnston supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the public schools of this county, by a course of study in the Galva high school and the Davenport Business College, being graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1887. He continued to reside on the home farm until 1892, when as a young man of twenty-six years he went upon the road as a traveling salesman, being connected with two different firms. Subsequently he became identified with the banking establishment of L. M. Yocum & Company, at Galva, where he remained until elected to the office of county treasurer in 1898. On the expiration of his term, in 1902, he took up his abode in Toulon, Stark county, where he organized the Johnston Lumber Company, conducting yards at Toulon, Annawan, Rock Falls and Campgrove. He made his home at Toulon until 1906, when he came to Kewanee and has here since continued to reside. In 1905 he purchased the Whiffen Lumber Yard, now known as the Johnston Lumber Company, establishing the headquarters of the firm at Kewanee, from which point the other yards are managed. They deal in all kinds of building materials,

and the trade is constantly growing, their liberal patronage now bringing to them a gratifying financial return. Mr. Johnston is likewise a stockholder in the State Bank of Toulon and is widely recognized as one of the most substantial, enterprising and representative citizens of the community.

On the 31st of October, 1895, Mr. Johnston was united in marriage to Miss Susie E. Calhoun, a daughter of Andrew Calhoun, of Henry county. They now have two children, Mary Janet and William C.

In his political views Mr. Johnston is a stalwart republican and on that ticket was elected to the position of county treasurer in 1898, discharging his official duties in a most efficient and highly satisfactory manner. He is a valued member of the Kewanee Club and the Commercial Club and served as president of the latter in 1908. Fraternally he is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity by his own high moral worth. What he undertakes, he accomplishes, for he possesses resolution, perseverance and reliability, and these qualities have caused him to be enrolled among the best citizens of his native county.

---

#### ALEXANDER WALKER.

Alexander Walker occupies a fine brick residence which stands in the midst of five acres of ground at the north end of State street, just outside the corporation limits of Geneseo. He has long been identified with agricultural interests and is still the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres in Henry county. He was born in the old town of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, December 28, 1831, his parents being James and Ellen (Stewart) Walker, who were also natives of the land of hills and heather. The father was a farmer of Scotland, where he died about 1845, while his wife passed away in 1842 in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which they were both members. They were parents of seven children, six sons and a daughter, of whom four are now living: Alexander; William, whose home is in Munson township; Ellen, the widow of James Richmond, of Orient, Iowa; and George, of Geneseo.

In the common schools of Scotland Alexander Walker pursued his education, while spending his youthful days upon the home farm. At the age of fifteen years, however, he began earning his own livelihood by working as a farm hand, and in 1856 he sought the opportunities and privileges of the new world. Here in connection with his brothers, John, James and William, he took contract work in ditching the swamp land in the western part of Indiana. He also did ditching for farmers, and at an early day the brothers came to Henry county but afterward returned to Indiana. A year later, however, they once more came to this county, and Alexander Walker soon resided within its borders. On their return the brothers rented land of P. P. Allan for three years and then began buying land. Mr. Walker, of this review, purchased eighty acres in

Cornwall township which was partially improved and upon that place resided for twenty years. He also bought one hundred and sixty acres south of the county house but sold it five years later and made purchase of a quarter section in Cambridge township. About the same time he removed to Geneseo, purchasing the attractive home and grounds which he now occupies at the north end of State street. His realty holdings, aside from his residence, comprise two hundred and forty acres, and from this property he derives a good annual income, for it is carefully cultivated under his supervision.

Mr. Walker was united in marriage to Miss Susan Seeds, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 3, 1838, her parents being Simon and Eliza (Orr) Seeds, both of whom were natives of County Down, Ireland. The latter was a daughter of Matthew Orr, but died in County Down, when well advanced in years. He married a Miss Ellison and followed farming as a life work. Mr. and Mrs. Seeds were reared and educated on the Emerald isle, and for a time the former served as a member of the English army. On coming to America they spent a few years in Philadelphia and afterward removed to Maryland, where they remained until their children were grown. They then returned to Philadelphia where they continued to reside until called to their final rest, the father dying at the age of eighty years and mother when seventy-six years of age. They were both members of the Episcopal church and they had a family of six children, but only two are now living: John A. Seeds, of Philadelphia; and Mrs. Walker. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Walker have been born two daughters, Helen and Mary, but the latter died in infancy. The former is the wife of James E. Ogden. They reside with Mr. and Mrs. Walker and have four children: Stewart, James C., Florence and John. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Walker served as elder for many years. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has now reached the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey, and the record which he has made is one which has classed him with the leading citizens and representative men of Henry county. He has lived here for almost a half century, and the respect and veneration which are given him are the result of a well spent life.

---

#### WILLIAM EDWARD GOULD.

William Edward Gould, whose life work has been an influencing factor in financial circles in Kewanee and in this part of the state, while his sound judgment proves an excellent guide for the conduct of important business interests, was born in Cairo, Illinois, December 6, 1867, his parents being George and Anna (Clitherow) Gould. The father was a fruit grower, conducting a good business along horticultural lines.

William E. Gould enjoyed the advantages of instruction in Oberlin College, after mastering the elementary branches of learning in the public schools, and in his youthful days became his father's assistant, which brought him practical business experience and gave him an insight into commercial and financial problems that has enabled him successfully to manage complex interests at a later

day. He first became identified with banking at Toulon as a member of the firm of Dewey, Burge & Gould, on the 1st of May, 1896, and there remained until April, 1902. For the past seven years he has been connected with the Savings Bank of Kewanee, of which he became one of the organizers, and at the same time he retains his interest in the bank at Toulon. Seeing opportunity for further investment in business interests that promised profitably he became a partner in the Kewanee Ice & Fuel Company, and also aided in the organization of the Fischer Lumber Company of Kewanee, Missouri, of which he is the secretary and treasurer.

On the 1st of January, 1902, Mr. Gould was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Bates, of Kewanee, Illinois, a daughter of M. C. and Emma (Latimer) Bates, who are farming people of Knox county. Mr. and Mrs. Gould have one child, Harriet Barodel. The parents are well known socially in the city, the hospitality of the best homes of Kewanee being freely accorded them. Mr. Gould belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows lodge, and his religious belief is evidenced in his membership in the First Congregational church. While he is preeminently a business man he does not allow commercial and financial interests to monopolize his time to the exclusion of other affairs of vital moment, but on the contrary gives his cooperation to various measures and projects for the public good.

---

#### CURTIS C. MARTIN.

On the roster of town and county officials appears the name of Curtis C. Martin, who is now filling the position of county surveyor and superintendent of streets and town assessor. He makes his home in Geneseo, his native city, his birth having there occurred December 28, 1860. His paternal grandfather, Samuel W. Martin, was a native of the state of New York and in 1872 became a resident of Geneseo, where he lived retired, his time and energies having previously been devoted to general farming. He was more than eighty years of age at the time of his demise and his wife had also reached a ripe old age when called to her final rest. Their son Charles H. Martin was a native of New York and in early life removed to Geneseo, where for some years he was engaged in the implement business. He also acted as constable for many years, and was assessor of Geneseo township for nine years. He married Miss Margaret A. Dillehay, a native of Ohio, who still survives him. He died January 15, 1902, at the age of seventy years and is still survived by his widow. They were both liberal in religious belief.

Curtis C. Martin was reared in Geneseo and attended the public and high schools of the city. He learned the trade of lettering in marble and granite and devoted considerable time to that work for a number of years. He then turned his attention to civil engineering and surveying and studied higher mathematics to perfect himself in the work. He still continues in that line, his services being in demand not only in a private capacity but also as county surveyor, superintendent of streets and town assessor. For several years he was in the tombstone

business on his own account and later he engaged in cement contract work. He has always led a busy life and whatever success he has attained is attributable entirely to his own labors. In connection with civil engineering and surveying he also has agricultural interests, for he is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Rock county, Minnesota.

In 1884 Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Myhill, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Whitcomb) Myhill. They had one child, Allan Doane. The wife and mother died in 1894 and her death was deeply deplored by many friends. Her parents came from Vermont to Henry county at an early day, settling in Munson township, where her father followed the occupation of farming. He died in Geneseo in middle life but his widow is still living. In 1896 Mr. Martin was again married, his second union being with Miss Harriet Whitcomb, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Whitcomb. Both Mr. and Mrs. Martin are liberal in religious matters.

He is a prominent Mason, belonging to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport. He is likewise affiliated with Geneseo Camp, No. 40, M. W. A., which he joined on its organization. He and his wife belong to the Eastern Star and he holds membership with the Yeomen of America. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has worked diligently to attain the success which is now his, has carefully qualified for the work in which he is engaged and is making an excellent record in the official positions that he is filling.

---

### WILLIAM ANDERSON.

William Anderson is the owner of a highly improved and productive farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, Cambridge township. He was born in Knox county, Illinois, on the 27th of January, 1854, his parents being Eric and Anna (Peterson) Anderson, who were natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather, Andrew Anderson, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Sweden when well advanced in years. Unto him and his wife were born seven children. The maternal grandfather of our subject, John Peterson, who was likewise an agriculturist by occupation, died in Sweden at a ripe old age.

Eric Anderson, the father of William Anderson, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1852, in company with his wife, and took up his abode in Knox county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. His wife passed away there in 1854 and eleven years later, in 1865, he came to Henry county. In 1872 he purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres on which his son William now resides and was successfully engaged in its cultivation until he was called to his final rest. The period of his residence in this county covered a third of a century and he became widely recognized as a most substantial, enterprising and progressive citizen. His demise occurred in 1899, when he had attained the age of sixty-nine years.

William Anderson, whose name initiates this review, was reared on his father's farm in Knox county and attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education. He lived with his father until the latter's death, when he came into possession of the old homestead farm in Cambridge township, which originally comprised eighty acres but now embraces a quarter section. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has won a most gratifying and well merited measure of success, for he cultivates the soil in accordance with modern methods of farming and uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields.

On the 28th of November, 1888, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Wexell, who was born at Bishop Hill, this county, her parents being Peter and Martha (Peterson) Wexell, natives of Sweden. They came to the United States in 1846 and cast in their lot with the Bishop Hill colony, living there during the entire period of its existence. Peter Wexell had the honor of making the first dugout at Bishop Hill. About the year 1860 the colonists divided their property, and subsequently, about 1869, Mr. Wexell purchased a farm of two hundred acres northwest of Bishop Hill. He passed away there in 1885 at the age of sixty-eight years. The death of his wife occurred in Cambridge in 1897, when she had attained the age of seventy-eight years. They had three children who lived to maturity, namely: Martha, who is now deceased; Mrs. Anderson; and Caroline, the widow of John P. Gunnerson. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson has been born a daughter, Selma Evalina Minerva Anderson.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Anderson gives his political allegiance to the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot, supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office. His wife and daughter are devoted and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Having resided in this part of the state throughout his entire life, covering a period of fifty-five years, he is well and favorably known here, and is widely recognized as a prosperous and progressive business man as well as an upright and honorable citizen.

---

#### FRED FAUSSET.

Fred Fausset, who for the past three years has been operating the Hugh Hutchinson farm of two hundred and ninety-three acres on section 12, Cambridge township, also devotes his attention to the buying and shipping of horses and cattle on a large scale. He was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, on the 19th of February, 1879, his parents being Wilson and Lucy (Rutledge) Fausset, likewise natives of the Hoosier state. The paternal grandfather, Isaac Fausset, who was also born in Indiana, followed farming in Hendricks county, that state, and there passed away when about sixty years of age. His wife, Mrs. Unity Fausset, was about seventy-eight or seventy-nine years old when called to her final rest. Their children were three in number: Wilson, Ada and Anna. John Rutledge, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Kentucky and a farmer by occupation. He loyally defended the interests of the Union as a

soldier in the Civil war. In early manhood he wedded Miss Millie Bradley and they subsequently took up their abode in Hendricks county, Indiana, where they lived throughout the remainder of their lives. John Rutledge passed away when about fifty-seven years of age, and his wife had attained the age of almost eighty when her demise occurred. They reared a family of seven children, namely: John, Henry, Lucy, Nan, Susan, Mary and Sarah.

Wilson Fausset, the father of Fred Fausset, was reared in Hendricks county, Indiana, and followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He is now living retired in Garden City, Kansas. Unto him and his wife were born two children, as follows: Fred, of this review; and Ivy, the wife of John H. Miller, of Wellsford, Kansas.

Fred Fausset, who was reared on the home farm in Hendricks county, Indiana, arrived in Henry county, Illinois, on the 2d of April, 1899. He first worked on the canal for a time and then secured employment by the month as a farm hand, being thus engaged for two years. On the expiration of that period he rented a tract of land near Atkinson and subsequently farmed a place in Cornwall township for a year, while later he operated the farm of George Lower for two years. For the past three years, however, he has given his attention to the cultivation of a farm of two hundred and ninety-three acres on section 12, Cambridge township, belonging to Hugh Hutchinson. In addition to his work as an agriculturist he also buys and ships horses and cattle on a large scale and has met with well merited success in his undertakings. In 1909 he shipped over three thousand dollars' worth of hogs of his own raising, and each season he handles cattle and horses to the value of about twenty thousand dollars. When he came to this county his cash capital amounted to but thirteen dollars, but by persistent, untiring and indefatigable effort he has gradually worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

On the 26th of September, 1906, Mr. Fausset was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Dyer, whose birth occurred in Putnam county, Indiana, on the 20th of November, 1879, her parents being James and Mary (Sallust) Dyer, natives of Tennessee and Indiana respectively. Mrs. Dyer passed away when her daughter Mabel was but a year old, and the latter was reared by her maternal grandparents. James Dyer is still living and now makes his home near Amo, in Hendricks county, Indiana. Subsequent to the death of his first wife he wedded Miss Elma Byrd. The first representative of the Dyer family in this county was William Dyer, the great-great-grandfather of Mrs. Fausset, who crossed the Atlantic from England to the United States and located near Knoxville, Tennessee. His son, Owen Dyer, was the father of Andrew Dyer, the grandfather of Mrs. Fausset. Andrew Dyer passed away near Knoxville, Tennessee, in middle age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Martha Gibbs, still survives and now resides in Benton county, Arkansas. They had two children: James; and Sallie, the wife of Al Hazel. William Sallust, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Fausset, was a native of Virginia and an agriculturist by occupation. He wedded Miss Sarah Thomas and they became early settlers of Putnam county, Indiana, where he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred when he was well advanced in years. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, namely:

James, Mary, John, Arthur, Daniel, Cora and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Fausset are now the parents of one son, Morris Dyer Fausset.

Mr. Fausset gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, as he owes his success entirely to his own labors. Not afraid of hard work, his industry has proven the key which has unlocked for him the portals of prosperity.

---

### CARROLL STEWART RAGAN.

Carroll Stewart Ragan, who since May, 1908, has been the editor of the Galva News, was born in Neoga, Cumberland county, Illinois, on the 5th of October, 1879, his parents being Dr. Gillum T. and Sara (Osbourne) Ragan, natives of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather, Robert Ragan, whose birth occurred in Virginia, was of Irish descent. He was a bridge and iron-work contractor. Unto him and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Smith, were born five children, as follows: Gillum T.; Robert Samuel; Zachary, who served as a major general in the Civil war; William; and Isabelle, who died in early womanhood. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Samuel Osbourne, a native of Virginia and of Scotch descent. He was a teacher by profession and passed away in middle life. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Cynthia Stewart, died at the age of seventy-seven years. Their family numbered three children: Cynthia, Samuel and Sara.

Dr. Gillum T. Ragan, the father of Carroll S. Ragan, was graduated from Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, in 1860, winning the degree of Bachelor of Arts. For some years and during the entire period of the Civil war he was in the employ of the government in the quartermaster general's office. After the close of hostilities between the north and the south he took up the study of medicine in Georgetown University at Georgetown, D. C., and when he had completed the prescribed course located for practice at Winchester, Indiana. He remained there, however, for only a short time and then established his home in Neoga, Illinois, where he has been successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery to the present time. Both he and his wife are devoted and consistent members of the Presbyterian church. They reared a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, seven of whom still survive, namely: Julia, the wife of E. R. Black, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Samuel O., a resident of Everett, Washington; Robert R., living in Indianapolis; Belle, the wife of Charles B. Wood, of Mattoon, Illinois; Carroll Stewart, of this review; Sara, the wife of William G. Hammond, of Brooklyn, New York; and Lucia.

Carroll S. Ragan was reared in the place of his nativity and completed the high school course at Neoga in 1897. He afterward attended Wabash College for two years and then entered the University of Illinois, taking special courses in music and languages. Subsequently he accepted a position as reporter on the Champaign Gazette and later acted in a similar capacity for the Nonpareil of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and the Omaha Daily News. Afterwards he was employed

in the advertising department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company for two years and thence once more took up newspaper reporting, securing a position on the staff of the Herald-Transcript at Peoria. He also did regular editorial work for that paper, having gained some experience in that line while employed on the staff of the Omaha Naily News. He is a cousin of Lloyd Osbourne, the novelist. In May, 1908, he came to Galva and took charge of the Galva News, the former editor, E. E. Fitch, having been elected county clerk. He also does general job printing and is a young man of keen discrimination and excellent executive ability, who has already attained an enviable position as a representative of journalistic interests in this part of the state.

In his political views Mr. Ragan is a staunch republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. He is an exemplary Mason and also belongs to Beta Theta Pi, a college fraternity. He is well educated in music and is a member of the Galva Band and also chorister at the Baptist church in Kewanee. His influence is ever found on the side of progress and improvement and in support of those movements which promote the material, intellectual, social and moral welfare of the community.

---

#### ADOLPH MAUL.

Adolph Maul needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for the active part which he has taken in public affairs has made him a well known and honored citizen of Kewanee. He has figured for many years as a representative business man here, and throughout the period of his connection with Kewanee he has been numbered with that group of able men who are helping to carry on the philanthropic and educational interests and work of general public benefit without any other reward than an occasional expression of appreciation and a sense of putting in work where it is most needed. He was born in Weida, Germany, July 12, 1830, a son of Gauliep and Johanna Maul. The father was an attorney by profession and was appointed by the government to a position on the bench. In his later years he was pensioned by the government and died in 1878, having for two years survived his wife, who passed away in Germany in 1876.

Adolph Maul acquired his education under private tutors in Germany and there learned the miller's trade, which he followed in his native country until June, 1854, when he came to America. He took up his abode in Newark, New Jersey, and continued to engage in milling there and in various places until his removal to Burlington, Iowa, in 1856. He remained for some time in that city, after which he returned to Germany on account of the health of himself and brother. The year 1863 witnessed his arrival in Kewanee, where he established a bakery and restaurant on the present site of the First National Bank. He conducted that in connection with the grocery store, of which he was proprietor for thirty years. Since 1893 he has been engaged in the general insurance and real-estate business and is one of the oldest and best known business men of the city, his reliability and enterprise at all times winning him the respect, confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated. He was one of

the organizers of the Kewanee Building & Loan Association and from its inception has served as one of its directors.

Mr. Maul has taken an active and helpful part in public affairs relative to the advancement and progress of the city. He was one of the members of the first board of education and has served in all for seventeen years on the board, doing effective work for the public schools. He has also been a trustee of the village and he served for five years as assistant supervisor of his township. He has likewise been an enthusiastic champion of the public library, has done active duty on the library board and was serving thereon at the time of the erection of the present attractive library building. His connection with the board covers in all twenty-five years, and he is now its president. He has been a member and chairman of the grand jury, and at all times his influence is on the side of right, progress and improvement.

In 1863 Mr. Maul was united in marriage to Miss Mary James of North Carolina, and unto them have been born five living children: Hedwig, who is a teacher of German in a St. Louis school; Emma, the wife of David Horner, a merchant of Kewanee; Edward G., who is engaged in teaching in Seattle, Washington; William, who is in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company at Chicago; and Lina, a teacher of Latin in the Kewanee high school.

Mr. Maul has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the past thirty-six years and is loyal to the teachings of the fraternity. In 1870, with his two brothers, he again returned to Germany on a visit. The voyage was in marked contrast to his first trip across the Atlantic, on which occasion he was forty-three days under sail. On his last trip he spent only a few days on ship-board ere he reached his destination, such being the improvement that had been made in steam navigation. Kewanee acknowledges her indebtedness to Mr. Maul for many acts that have been of great benefit to the city. He has set out a large number of trees in the parks, the schoolyards, the cemetery and all public places, adding much thereby to the beauty of the city. He believes in working not only for the present but for future generations and is a man of patriotic spirit and generous aims, whose memory will be held in grateful remembrance long after he shall have ceased to be an active factor in life's work. He has now passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey but yet maintains deep and active interest in public affairs and is one of Kewanee's most honored citizens.

---

#### CLARK BENJAMIN ABY.

The life record of Clark Benjamin Aby is in contradistinction to the old adage that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country," for in Galva township, where his entire life has been spent, he is ranked among the leading lawyers and is now serving his second term as city attorney of Galva. Born on a farm a mile and a half east of Galva, Illinois, on the 15th of April, 1871, he is a son of Alexander and Melvina (Stanton) Aby. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Clark Stanton, a native of New York, who was a mill-

wright and miller by trade. He came west with his family at a very early date, before the railroads had been built, making the journey on a flat boat down the Ohio river. He first located at Peoria, which was at that time a mere village, and later removed to Rochester in Peoria county, where he erected a mill upon the banks of the Spoon river. His mill was the first to be built on that stream and was the only one within a radius of fifty miles. He remained here for several years and then, losing his health, he started for California. He only got half way, however, and then returned home, continuing his residence in Rochester until his demise, which occurred after he had attained a good old age. His wife was a Miss Barnes in her maidenhood and by her marriage to Mr. Stanton became the mother of the following: Irene S., the wife of John Aby; Melvina S., the mother of our subject; Cloy, who married Dr. Sylvester Cravens; Erastus S.; and Frank S. Alexander Aby, the father of Clark Benjamin Aby, was born in Richland county, Ohio, and was a son of Benjamin Aby. A farmer by occupation, he came to Illinois at a very early date, settling first in Peoria county, while later he came to Galva township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. When he arrived in this district much of the land was still unclaimed and unimproved, but with characteristic energy he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers and began immediately to clear his property and prepare the soil for cultivation. As the years went by he converted the raw land into productive fields and became one of the prosperous and substantial farmers of the township. He now lives retired in Galesburg, his wife having passed away in 1905, at the age of seventy-nine years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Galva, while a short time prior to her death his wife became a student of Christian Science. In their family were nine children, seven sons and two daughters, four of whom are still living, namely: Arthur, residing in Kelso, North Dakota; Frank S., practicing medicine in Chicago; Charles O.; and Clark Benjamin.

Clark Benjamin Aby, the youngest surviving member of the family, resided upon his father's farm in Galva township until thirteen years of age, when the family removed to Galva, where he has since made his home. He supplemented his district school training by a course at Galva high school, and then prepared for a professional life by taking up the study of law in the law department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, Illinois, from which he was graduated with the class of 1896. He was admitted to the bar in June of the same year and at once opened an office for the practice of law in Galva, where he has since continued to follow his profession. From the outset he has been most successful and his practice has now grown to extensive proportions and is of an important character, while his high standing in the community is indicated by the fact that he is now serving as city attorney. Along with those qualities indispensable to the lawyer, a keen, rapid, logical mind plus the business sense and a ready capacity for hard work, he brought to the starting point of his legal career other gifts—a strong personality, an earnest manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles.

It was on the 22d of July, 1896, that Mr. Aby was united in marriage to Miss Lillian A. Nordstrom, a daughter of Andrew and Catharine (Eriscon) Nordstrom, who were both old settlers of Henry county. The birth of Mrs. Aby

occurred in Bishop Hill, this county, and she was one of five children, three of whom are now living, the others being Mrs. Ida M. Paddock, of Mankato, Minnesota, and Edward B. Nordstrom. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Aby were born two children, Rowland C. and Genevieve Evelyn Lillian.

In his religious faith Mr. Aby is a Methodist, while fraternally he belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., of which he was secretary for four years and senior warden for one year, while he has also held various other offices in the lodge. He was recently elected master of this lodge. He likewise is a member of Galva Lodge, No. 417, K. P., and is also an active worker in that body. He is stalwart in his allegiance to the republican party, on which ticket he has filled several offices. He was the first alderman elected from the third ward after the village became a city, and he held that position one year, when he resigned to become a candidate for city attorney, in which office he is now serving his second term. He served as justice of the peace for seven years, and has always been very prominent and active in public affairs, lending his influence at all times to further the cause of progress, reform, improvement and advancement. He is the owner of four hundred acres of fine farm land in Traill county, North Dakota, which is a source of additional and gratifying revenue to him. Earnest effort, close application and the exercise of his native talents have won Mr. Aby prestige as an able lawyer and his high standing at the bar is a merited tribute to his success.

---

### JOHN E. SANDQUIST.

John E. Sandquist, a successful and enterprising agriculturist and stock raiser of Cambridge township, is actively engaged in the operation of the D. C. Tomlinson farm, comprising two hundred and fifty-six acres of land on section 13. He was born in Sweden on the 15th of January, 1871, his parents being Swan Peter and Sophia Louise (Larson) Carlson, who were likewise natives of that country. The father spent his entire life in Sweden and followed various pursuits throughout his active business career. He passed away in 1900 at the age of sixty-five years. His widow still survives and makes her home in Sweden. She is a faithful member of the Lutheran church, with which her husband was also identified. Their union was blessed with five children, as follows: Sophia Louise, the widow of Charles Samuelson; Charles A., who is a resident of Colorado; John E., of this review; Ida Josephine, the wife of J. S. Andree, of Chicago; and Oscar E., living in Sweden.

John E. Sandquist was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in the schools of his native land. Determining to establish his home on this side the Atlantic, he set sail for the United States and on the 17th of March, 1884, landed on American shores. He made his way at once to Cambridge, Henry county, and for several years worked as a farm hand by the month. He now rents and operates what is known as the D. C. Tomlinson farm of two hundred and fifty-six acres, located on section 13 in Cambridge township. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also raises considerable stock and in both undertakings is meeting with gratifying success.

He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Morris county, Kansas, five miles from Lost Springs, and there makes his home at the present time. It is a very valuable piece of land and he recently refused an offer to sell it for twenty-five hundred dollars more than he paid for it.

On the 17th of February, 1897, Mr. Sandquist was united in marriage to Miss Hulda J. Carlson, a native of Andover township, this county, and a daughter of S. A. and Christana (Peterson) Carlson, who were born in Sweden and became early settlers of Andover township. The father is now living retired in Cambridge. He was twice married and by his first wife had five children, namely: Axel, a resident of Evanston, Illinois; Albert C.; Mary, the wife of August Sandberg; Frank August; and Mrs. Sandquist. For his second wife S. A. Carlson chose Miss Sophia Larson, by whom he has two children: Emil J.; and Ellen, the wife of E. P. Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Sandquist are now the parents of six children, namely: Nannie Genevieve; Charles Robert Rudolph; Vera Mabel; Grace Luella and Bessie Leona, twins; and Henrietta Louise. All were born in Andover township, this county.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Sandquist has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife is a Lutheran in religious faith. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward.

---

### ROBINSON G. JONES.

The educational interests of Henry county find one of their most prominent representatives in Professor Robinson G. Jones, superintendent of the city schools. He was born in Kansas City, Kansas, December 14, 1871, a son of Rev. John G. and Rovilla (Robinson) Jones, the former a minister of the Methodist church. Professor Jones pursued his education in the schools of Columbus, Ohio, from which he was graduated, and in the Ohio Central Normal School and the Ohio Northern University, the last named conferring upon him the degree of Master of Arts in 1894. He also studied law in the Ohio University and pursued a special history course in the University of Chicago and a special course in Columbia University in New York city in 1907. His entire life has been devoted to educational work and to the further promotion of his own education as he has found opportunity to resume his studies. For one year he was principal and for four years superintendent of the public schools at Gibson City, Illinois, was superintendent of the schools at Lexington, Illinois for two years and spent five years as superintendent at Harvard, Illinois. He then came to Kewanee as superintendent of schools of this city, where he has done excellent and effective work, placing the public-school system of Kewanee on a par with that of other schools of the state. He holds to high standards and works toward high ideals in his chosen profession, eagerly embracing every opportunity that will enhance

the effectiveness of his labor in accomplishing results, in equipping the youth for the practical and responsible duties of life. He is a member of the National Educational Association and of the Department of Superintendents and belongs also to the State Teachers Association and to the Superintendents Round Table of Chicago. He is a member of the western division of the Northern Illinois Teachers Association and is vice president of the Superintendents and Principals Association of Northern Illinois. He is now acting as secretary of the superintendents division of the State Teachers Association. He has a wide acquaintance among leading educators of Illinois and has made continuous progress in his profession, being now accorded a position of distinction as a representative of public instruction in this state.

On the 27th of July, 1899, Mr. Jones married Miss Minnie L. Gish, of Rittman, Ohio, a daughter of John J. Gish, a tobacco broker, who is a native of Connecticut and is now connected with the tobacco industry of northern Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jones has been born a son, Robert Stanley. In his fraternal relations the father is a Mason, devoted to the interests of the order, and in religious belief is a Presbyterian.

---

#### LOUIS R. HARMS.

Few men have more intimate or accurate knowledge concerning the history of Geneseo's growth and development than Louis R. Harms, who for more than a half century has here resided. His birth occurred in Geneseo, February 12, 1857, and as the years have advanced he has worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the successful business men of the city, being at the present time in the city department of the firm of Harms & Glawe, buyers and shippers of poultry, butter and eggs. His youthful days were passed in the home of his parents, Henry and Sophia (Gueldenzoph) Harms, both of whom were natives of Holstein, Germany. The former was a son of Claus Harms, who was a laborer in Germany and died there at an old age. He was married twice and had seven children. The maternal grandfather, Christopher Gueldenzoph, passed away in Germany in the '90s. He had reached a venerable age. He, too, was a laborer. Unto him and his wife were born a number of children, but only one is now living—Christopher Gueldenzoph.

Henry Harms devoted the greater part of his life to general farming. Emigrating to America, he spent one year in Davenport, Iowa, and about 1856 came to Geneseo, where he lived for a number of years and worked in an elevator. In 1868 he turned his attention to farming and afterward purchased a tract of land of eighty acres a mile east of the town, making his home thereon from 1875 until his death. During that period he made many substantial improvements upon his place. He had served as a soldier in Germany in the war of 1848 with Denmark. Both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and have now passed away. They had but two children, and the other, Emma, died in infancy.

Louis R. Harms was reared in Geneseo and attended the public and parochial schools. He afterward worked on the farm with his father for many years, being first employed for wages, while later he became a partner in the business. Eventually he inherited the old homestead, which he afterward sold, and for the past twenty years he has made his home in Geneseo. For three years he was employed in the poultry business by H. W. Moses, his duties taking him at times to Chicago, while the remainder of that period was spent in Geneseo. Finally he returned to the latter city to take charge of the bookkeeping for Mr. Moses. About 1892, however, he formed a partnership with his brothers-in-law, F. A. and L. F. Glawe and they established branches at many points in Illinois and Iowa. The firm name from the beginning has been Harms & Glawe, but about seven years ago F. A. Glawe withdrew and took the western end of the business, while the other two partners retained the eastern end. The present firm has branch houses at Wilton Junction, Atkinson and Woodhull, Illinois. Their business is now very extensive and their sales amount to thousands of dollars annually. The undertaking furnishes an excellent market to the producers of poultry, butter and eggs and in the purchase and sale of these commodities the partners are meeting with gratifying success.

On the 12th of January, 1882, Mr. Harms was united in marriage to Miss Wilhelmina Glawe, who was born in Pomeran, Germany, and is a daughter of Johan and Fredericka (Reusch) Glawe, both of whom were natives of Germany and on coming to America settled in Henry county about 1866. They are now deceased, but five of their children are still living: Wilhelmina, Louis, Frederick, Friedericka and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Harms have become the parents of three sons and a daughter: Herbert, who wedded Miss Mary Schuetzler; Raymond; Robert; and Meta. The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church, and Mr. Harms politically is a democrat. He is now serving for the second term as alderman of the third ward and exercises his official prerogatives in support of measures for the public good. He is widely known in Geneseo and throughout this part of the state, where his extensive business interests have brought him a large acquaintance, while his substantial qualities have gained for him the merited regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

---

### PERCY CLIFTON HAYES.

Percy C. Hayes is the treasurer of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company of Galva. He was born on the home farm near Kewanee, June 6, 1881, and spent his youthful days under the parental roof. The family removed to Galva during his early boyhood and at the usual age he entered the public schools, therein continuing his studies until he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1899. He afterward received training for the commercial world as a pupil in the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Illinois, while later he attended the University of Illinois at Champaign for one year. He then entered the service of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company and after spending several years as an employe was elected treasurer of the company in January, 1908, and

has since been in control of its financial interests. He belongs to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon, a college fraternity, and to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M. Like the other members of the family he is a staunch advocate of republican principles, giving to the party unswerving support since attaining his majority.

---

### THOMAS H. McCONNELL.

The agriculturists of Clover township are noted for their fine farms, high grade stock and comfortable homes and Thomas H. McConnell is no exception to this rule. He was born on his present farm February 4, 1876, being a son of Thomas S. and Margaret (Miller) McConnell. The McConnell family came from Pennsylvania, in pioneer days, the grandparents of our subject, William and Catherine McConnell, emigrating with four sons and five daughters. Of these Thomas S. was the oldest. They came as far as Altona by rail and then by wagon to Clover township, Henry county, where William McConnell later purchased land which still remains in the family. He was a farmer and placed the two hundred acres he acquired in splendid condition, it now being some of the most valuable property in Henry county. He and his family were devout Presbyterians. Thomas S. McConnell had seven children, as follows: Miller S., who is a resident of Harvey county, Kansas; Horace and William, who died in infancy; Herbert, who passed away after reaching manhood; Anna, who is now Mrs. John Pennell, of Hutchinson, Kansas; Porter F., who is a farmer of Clover township; and Thomas H., of this review. The father of this family became a prosperous farmer and extensive cattle dealer, both feeding and shipping stock and doing a very large business annually. While a democrat, he was not an active partisan but was always interested in local affairs. His wife, Mrs. Margaret McConnell, died February 28, 1879, after a life of generous devotion to her family. On May 29, 1888, Mr. McConnell married Miss Belle McCullough, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania. He died May 19, 1897, and is survived by his second wife. He was an adherent of the Presbyterian church and was prominent in it as he was in all the walks of life.

Thomas H. McConnell was reared on his father's three hundred and twenty acre farm and attended the district schools of the township. He was a student in the Woodhull high school when his father died so that he left his studies to undertake the management of the homestead. On May 30, 1902, he married Miss Harriet A. Richards, daughter of Henry and Mary L. (Phelon) Richards. Her family came from Vermont, Mr. Richards becoming a farmer of Knox county, Illinois, where he died in the winter of 1905. His widow survives, making her home in Galesburg. Since his marriage, Mr. McConnell has continued operations on the homestead, being engaged in general farming and in buying and selling stock. He is a democrat but like his father is not active in politics. Fraternally he is a member of Woodhull Lodge, No. 508, A. F. & A. M., and of Woodhull Lodge, No. 383, I. O. O. F., being noble grand of the latter organization at the present time, having filled all the subordinate



THOMAS S. McCONNELL.



chairs. Both Mr. and Mrs. McConnell are members of the Presbyterian church and very much interested in church and Sunday-school work.

The McConnell homestead is one of the finest farms in Henry county and is beautifully located on a ridge of ground that commands an excellent view of the surrounding country. The house is a commodious one and supplied with modern conveniences. When the barn was built in 1876 it was the largest in the county and even today there are few with a greater capacity, it holding two hundred and fifty tons of hay, while below are accommodations for stock and farm machinery. There are other numerous buildings on the farm which are well adapted for their several purposes. Mr. McConnell is a model farmer, conducting his operations along scientific lines, and his broad acres and fine stock reflect his prosperity.

---

### BERNARD EDWARD SOMMERS.

Bernard Edward Sommers, whose business activity is a resultant factor in the attainment of success, is now conducting a profitable enterprise as an ice dealer of Geneseo. He was born in Loraine township, Henry county, July 13, 1878, and is descended from a family of German origin. His grandfather was John Sommers, a native of Pennsylvania, who followed farming as a life work. He was married twice and had the following children: Tillie, Edward, Peter and Reuben, by the first marriage and Mabel and John by the second.

Edward Sommers, the father of Bernard E. Sommers, was born in Pennsylvania and has devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits. He came to Henry county when a young man and was married at the age of twenty-one years to Miss Nancy Bollen, who was born in Loraine township, this county. Her father, Thomas Bollen, was a native of the state of New York, whence he removed to Henry county. He had previously learned the gunsmith's trade and followed it in early life. Attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he crossed the plains to the Pacific coast and upon his return to the middle west located in Henry county, where he purchased one hundred and ninety acres of land in Loraine township. That property he afterward sold to Edward Sommers. His death occurred at the home of one of his daughters at Spring Hill, Whiteside county, Illinois. His wife, Mrs. Lydia (Potts) Bollen, died when more than eighty years of age. They were the parents of five children: Lydia, Eli, Washington, Mary and Nancy.

Following the marriage of Edward Sommers and Nancy Bollen they began their domestic life upon a farm in Henry county, living in Loraine township for more than thirty years, their place of abode being a rich tract of land of one hundred and ninety acres, which Mr. Sommers brought under a high state of cultivation. About 1904 he retired from active business cares and removed to Geneseo, now making his home in the north end of the town. He is serving as road commissioner and has been school director for some years. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted in the Union army and went as far south as Cairo, where he was held as a reserve but was not in active duty. His wife died in 1903 at

the age of fifty-three years, in the faith of the Christian religion. She belonged to Grace Evangelical church, of which Mr. Sommers is also a member. Of their family the following children still survive: Cora; Fred; Frank; John; Bernard E., of this review; Lutetia, the wife of William Mozingo; Harriet, the wife of Frank Brokaw; and Edith and Elmer, at home.

Bernard E. Sommers was reared on the old home farm in Loraine township, and in retrospect one can see him as he trudged off to the district schools in his early youth, there to acquaint himself with the branches of learning that usually constitute the public-school curriculum. In the periods of vacation he was employed in the work of the fields and remained at home until his marriage. On the 30th of November, 1897, he wedded Miss Elsie Clapper, a daughter of John and Lydia (Wilt) Clapper. They began their domestic life upon a farm, which Mr. Sommers rented for three years. Later he spent a year in the grocery business at Spring Hill, Illinois, and then came to Geneseo on the 1st of March, 1904. In 1905 he became a partner of John Bollen in the ice business and two years later purchased Mr. Bollen's interest and has continued in business alone to the present time. He has secured a liberal patronage, and the success which is his is well merited, for his business methods are at all times honorable and straightforward.

In 1900 Mr. Sommers was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died at the birth of their daughter Gladys. That year the elder daughter of that marriage, Merna, died at the age of sixteen months. On the 24th of October, 1906, Mr. Sommers was again married, his second union being with Miss Maude Pomeroy, a daughter of Lemont and Fannie (Echart) Pomeroy.

In his political views Mr. Sommers is a republican and in 1906-07 served as a member of the city council, representing the first ward. His official service was characterized by the support of various measures of reform, improvement and progress. He joined Bollen Lodge, No. 82, A. F. & A. M., in 1903, and two years later transferred his membership to Stewart Lodge, No. 92. He also belongs to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; to the Mystic Workers of the World; to the Fraternal Reserves; and to the tribe of Ben Hur. He is likewise a member of Grace Evangelical church. He has always lived in Henry county, and the fact that many of his stanch friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is an indication that his course in life has been that of honorable, upright manhood.

---

### GEORGE R. SMITH.

George R. Smith, one of the native farmers and dairymen of Osco township, whose home is on section 27, was born March 9, 1870, and is a son of Jared H. and Mary E. (Knowles) Smith. Reared at home to agricultural pursuits, he attended the district schools and later the high school at Cambridge, for two winters; supplemented by two winters' study at the Duncan Business College. On the completion of his education he went into partnership with his father under the firm title of J. H. Smith & Son. They bought the stock of A.

A. Crane, who was engaged in the breeding of Hereford cattle, and for two years conducted a stock business. At the end of that period the partnership was dissolved and George R. Smith took up general farming, giving some attention to the feeding of cattle. He was successful beyond the average, for he spared no effort to keep abreast of the progress made in his line of work and in 1908 he purchased his first milking machine. It was at the time the first in Henry county and perhaps still enjoys the distinction. Mr. Smith has now bought three machines, with each of which he milks two cows, and is now able to milk his herd of thirty-five in about one and a quarter hours. This incident but serves as an indication of his attitude toward the advances that science has made in the agricultural world as in other fields, and when this frame of mind is joined with great industry and intelligence it is but natural that in the succeeding years Mr. Smith should attain to an enviable position among the farmers of his township.

In Munson township, December 30, 1894, were pronounced the words that made Mr. Smith and Miss Clara May Masch man and wife. She had been born in Henry county and is a daughter of Henry and Mary Masch. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, but one, Willard H., died in infancy. Those living are: Mary E., Anna E., George R., and Leita Naomi. The family are being reared in the faith of the Episcopal church, that to which Mr. and Mrs. Smith give their religious allegiance, and they attend the services of Grace church of that denomination. Politically, Mr. Smith gives his support to the candidates of the republican party, but he has never sought public office, though he has served as township clerk and justice of the peace.

---

### HUGH BAIRD.

Hugh Baird, a successful grocery merchant of Galva, was born in Oneida, Knox county, Illinois, on the 28th of May, 1874, his parents being Hugh and Ellen (Moore) Baird, natives of Scotland. The paternal grandfather, Hugh Baird, passed away in that country at an advanced age. Hugh Baird, the father of our subject, crossed the Atlantic to the United States when about eighteen years of age and settled in Illinois, where he successfully followed general agricultural pursuits. He was accidentally killed in the year 1875, being kicked by a horse. His wife passed away in 1888, when thirty-six years of age. Both were consistent and faithful members of the Methodist church. They had two children: Hugh, of this review; and John, who died at the age of nine years.

When a little lad of six years Hugh Baird was brought to Galva and has since made his home here. He supplemented his public school education by a course in a business college at Galva and after putting aside his text-books worked by the month as a farm hand for two years. Subsequently he was in the employ of the Standard Oil Company for almost eight years, at the end of which time he opened his present grocery establishment and has since enjoyed an extensive trade. His store is most neat and tasteful in arrangement, his prices are reasonable and his business methods honorable.

On the 20th of November, 1894, Mr. Baird was united in marriage to Miss Josie Guthrie, a native of Galva and a daughter of Thomas and Anna (McCulloch) Guthrie. Her father, a native of England, became an early settler of this county. Mrs. Baird has one sister, Dora, the wife of W. H. Johnson. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Baird has been born a daughter, Mynette.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Baird has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party. He is a member of Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star. They attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church and are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and upright lives.

---

#### EARL F. WHITE.

All the lines of business which are found in an enterprising progressive city are represented in Geneseo, and among the leading merchants of the town is numbered Earl F. White, now proprietor of a bakery and confectionery establishment and ice-cream parlor. He has a well equipped place and the excellent line of goods which he carries and manufactures assures him a liberal and continued patronage.

The tide of emigration has usually set toward the west and a great majority of Henry county's citizens have come from districts farther east. Earl F. White, however, is an exception to this rule for he was born in Fairfield, Clay county, Nebraska, March 10, 1875. His paternal grandfather, Daniel White, was one of the early settlers of La Salle county, Illinois, where he lived for many years. He acted as justice of the peace there and was connected with commercial interests as a hardware dealer and druggist in Earlville. His death occurred in that town when he was eighty-three years of age. Unto him and his wife, Mrs. Eleonor White, were born three children: George D., Jefferson, and Hamilton.

George D. White was born in Illinois, but seeking the opportunities of a district farther west became a farmer of Clay county, Nebraska, when it was still a pioneer region. Returning to Illinois, however, he became proprietor of a grocery store in Mendota. Afterward he returned to Nebraska, where he died. He wedded Sarah A. Avery, a native of New York and a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Avery, who were likewise born in the Empire state. The father became one of the pioneer settlers of La Salle county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming at an early day, hauling his wheat to Chicago with an ox team before the building of the railroads. He was closely associated with the early development of the county and aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been built the present prosperity and progress of this section. He died in Earlville in 1883 at the age of eighty-one years and his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Avery, also reached an advanced age. As stated, Sarah A. Avery became the wife of George D. White and, still surviving her husband, now lives in Earlville at the age of seventy-three years, her birth having occurred in 1836. She is a con-

sistent member of the Baptist church. The death of Mr. White was caused by illness contracted while serving his country as a soldier in the Civil war. After the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south he responded to the country's call and joined Company D, Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served three years and seven months as a private. He never faltered in the performance of any military duty but loyally followed the old flag in battle or on the long, hard marches. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and three daughters, but only three are now living: Eleanor, the wife of William Prentice, of Earlville, Illinois; Earl F., of Geneseo; and George, also of Earlville.

The youthful days of Earl F. White were largely passed at Earlville and in attendance at the public school there he mastered the common branches of English learning, continuing his studies until he was graduated from the high school with the class of June, 1893. His first undertaking in the business world was made as a clerk in a general store and he has since been connected with commercial interests. In the spring of 1903 he established a bakery and restaurant business on his own account in Earlville and was building up a good trade when in the fall of that year his business was destroyed by fire. In 1904 he resumed business but in the succeeding fall sold out and removed to Kewanee where he acted as assistant foreman of the bread department of the West Side Bakery. On the 4th of May, 1909, he came to Geneseo and purchased the bakery and confectionery business of John L. Morrow, bringing to its conduct broad experience in this line of trade, as well as a firm determination to win success if it could be secured by honorable methods.

Mr. White belongs to Shabbona Lodge, No. 294, I. O. O. F. and to the Modern Woodmen Camp. In politics he is a stanch republican, believing firmly in the party platform. His social qualities and sterling worth make him a popular young man and he has gained in large measure the esteem and good will of his business colleagues and associates in Geneseo.

---

#### HARRISON MINER.

Harrison Miner is living retired in Kewanee, although retaining financial connection with business concerns of importance. He has lived in the city since 1898 and is one of Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Stark county, June 22, 1840. His parents were Harris W. and Susanna (Smith) Miner, who were natives of Maine and Massachusetts, respectively. The grandfather, coming to Illinois in 1828, took up a claim of government land at Prince's Grove, settling in the midst of the forest. Harris W. Miner secured a claim near Toulon, Illinois, and burned the deserted Indian wigwams which were still standing on his place at that time. The father and grandfather were closely associated with the pioneer development of the respective sections in which they located. The former passed away in 1858 and his wife died in 1880.

In the public schools Harrison Miner pursued his education, while spending his youthful days on his father's farm. He early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and after the father's death

he bought out the interest of the other heirs and still retains the ownership of the old homestead. His life work has been that of a successful agriculturist, who has made a close study of the quality and needs of the soil, has practiced the rotation of crops and has carried on his work along progressive and effective lines, winning that success which is the result of intelligently directed effort. In 1898 he left the farm and removed to Kewanee, where he now lives a retired life but is still financially interested in the Savings Bank of Kewanee, of which he was one of the organizers and is now the vice president.

On the 14th of November, 1861, Mr. Miner was married to Miss Avice Parish, who was born in Stark county, Illinois, and is a daughter of Rudolph Parish, a pioneer resident of that county. The children of this marriage are as follows: Ida L., the eldest, became the wife of L. D. Maxfield, a farmer of this county, but she is now deceased. Edgar S., residing in Kewanee, is a contractor and builder and has erected some of the most important structures of the city, including the Negel block, the hotel block on Main street, the Baptist church and many others. Ernest, now residing in Decatur, Illinois, is connected with a large manufacturing concern. Harrison E. operates the old homestead in Stark county. Carl R., the youngest, is teller in the Savings Bank at Kewanee.

Mr. Miner has always manifested a public spirit, giving tangible evidence of his interest in the general welfare by hearty cooperation in many movements for the public good. The cause of education has always found in him a stalwart champion and for many years he was a school director in Stark county and also a trustee in Toulon Academy. He was likewise a director of the Stark County Agricultural Society and did much to stimulate ambition and interest along agricultural lines and thus promote the welfare of the farming class. Diligent and persevering in business and reliable at all times he has made a record which has gained him classification with the leading and most respected residents of Kewanee.

---

### ED BRINKHOFF.

Ed Brinkhoff, a well known and successful agriculturist residing on section 24, Cambridge township, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Henry county, having been born on the farm where he now lives on the 3d of September, 1861. His parents were Dedrich and Sarah (Stackhouse) Brinkhoff, the former a native of Hanover, Germany, while the latter's birth occurred near Ithaca, New York. The paternal grandfather, Frederick Brinkhoff, died in Germany in middle life. His wife lived to attain the ripe old age of ninety-two years. Their children were four in number, namely: Dedrich, Sophie, Henry and Fred. Robert Stackhouse, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of the state of New York and a farmer by occupation. He took up his abode in Cambridge township, Henry county, Illinois, prior to the Civil war and during that sanguinary conflict loyally defended the interests of the Union as a member of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Regiment. His son Henry also belonged to that regiment. Robert Stackhouse died immediately after the close of hostilities, but his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Bishop,

lived to a good old age. Unto them were born seven children: Isaac, John, Henry, Benjamin, Sarah, Ann and James.

Dedrich Brinkhoff, the father of Ed Brinkhoff, learned the cabinet-maker's trade in his native land and when a young man of twenty years crossed the Atlantic to the United States. After working for a time at Schenectady, New York, he made his way to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, about 1847, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California with an ox team. He worked in the gold mines there for about three years and in 1852 returned to the west, taking up his abode in Illinois. In 1855 he purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 24, Cambridge township, this county, and, as his financial resources increased, extended the boundaries of the place from time to time by additional purchase until it embraced four hundred acres. During the last few years of his life he lived retired in Cambridge, where he passed away in 1900 at the age of seventy-four years. The period of his residence in this county covered almost a half century and he was widely and favorably known within its borders as a most successful agriculturist and substantial citizen. His wife was called to her final rest in 1878, when forty-six years of age. Their union was blessed with six children, two sons and four daughters, as follows: Sophia, the wife of J. Buckley, of Burns township; Ada, the wife of T. B. Rogers, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Ed, of this review; Fred, who died in early life; Mary, the wife of John Rogers, of Palisades, Colorado; and Elizabeth, the wife of Samuel Blystone, of Denver, Colorado.

Ed Brinkhoff was reared on the farm where his birth occurred and which has remained his place of residence to the present time. He attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and, through the assistance which he rendered his father in the cultivation of the home farm, early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. The old homestead place is now in his possession and is a rich and productive tract of land comprising one hundred and sixty acres on section 24, Cambridge township. He has remodeled and greatly enlarged the residence, and the various other buildings on the property are kept in an excellent state of repair. He and his children were all born in the same room where his mother and grandmother died. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and bends his energies toward raising the crops best adapted to soil and climate, so that he annually gathers and markets good harvests.

On the 14th of February, 1883, Mr. Brinkhoff was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Finley, whose birth occurred in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, August 13, 1865. Her parents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Hutchison) Finley, who were both natives of Ireland, came to the United States shortly after their marriage and settled in Pennsylvania. In 1877 they came to Henry county, Illinois, taking up their abode in Munson township. Samuel Finley passed away on the 14th of January, 1900, when seventy-four years of age, but is still survived by his widow, who has now attained the age of eighty-two years. Unto them were born eleven children, nine of whom are yet living, as follows: Joseph; Charles; Ida, the wife of John Bonn; Annie, the wife of Andrew Hemmerle; William; Mrs. Brinkhoff; Emma, the wife of Max Rosenstern; and Mate and Elizabeth. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Brinkhoff, John Finley, was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in

Ireland, passing away in middle age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sadie Hazlett, lived to a ripe old age. They had four children: Samuel, Robert, John and Elizabeth. William and Ann (Cochren) Hutchison, the maternal grandparents of Mrs. Brinkhoff, also died on the Emerald isle. They reared a family of six children, namely: William, Robert, Joseph, Cochran, Elizabeth and Hattie. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brinkhoff have been born three children, as follows: Pearl, who died at the age of ten years and eight months; Bonn, a graduate of the Geneseo high school, who is now engaged in teaching; and Finley, who is attending school.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Brinkhoff gives his political allegiance to the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He held the office of school director for two terms and is a staunch friend of the cause of education. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Cambridge Lodge, No. 199. He has made his home in this county from his birth to the present time, and, owing to his upright and honorable career, the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

---

### EDWARD LENIEUS SWANSON.

Among the leading representatives of this the first generation of descendants of the sturdy pioneers of Bishop Hill is Edward Lenieus Swanson, the second son of Swan Swanson, one of the prominent men of the village. He was one of the founders of the colony, was a trustee and the manager of its mercantile department during its existence, and after its dissolution he was one of those active in the establishment of the village of Bishop Hill, a most prominent factor in its civic affairs and its commercial development.

Edward Lenieus Swanson was born at Bishop Hill, February 4, 1862. He received a good common-school education in the village, finishing with a commercial course in Elliott's Business College at Burlington, Iowa. After leaving school he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits and in 1889 was appointed postmaster of Bishop Hill by Postmaster General Wannemaker, having conducted his general store and the village postoffice in conjunction for the past twenty years, for he has been reappointed for five successive terms as there was no opposition to him, and yet he had no other advantage in his favor save his record of efficient service. That, however, should be great enough to convince any that he was a most capable official for in the score of years of his administration the postal business has increased more than tenfold, a rural route has been established, a money order division secured, and many other improvements have been made.

Politically Mr. Swanson has always been a staunch republican and has ever taken an active part in the local affairs of the party. Having inherited the characteristics of his father, whom nature had constituted a leader among men, he has followed closely in his footsteps, like him fully appreciating the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. In consequence he has proven himself a worthy



SWAN SWANSON



successor of that esteemed man in public life as in business. He has held the office of township clerk for almost twenty years, has been a member of the village board for the greater part of the period since he attained his majority, serving as president of the body during several terms.

On the 18th of September, 1894, in Bishop Hill, Mr. Swanson was united in marriage to Miss Jennie V. Olson, a daughter of the late Olof Olson, a prominent farmer and one of the original members of the Bishop Hill colony, while her mother, who was Miss Mary Malmgren before her marriage, enjoyed the distinction of having been the first child born in the colony. Mrs. Swanson is a graduate of Burlington Commercial College and charming mistress of the pretty home they occupy on the south side of town. It was erected in 1895 and combines comfort and convenience with artistic excellence. They have one child, a daughter, Grace Evelyn, who was born November 23, 1897.

Mr. Swanson has ever taken a deep interest in fraternal organizations, being identified with the Masonic order. In this he has risen to the Knight Templar degree, and also holds membership in the Mohammed Temple of the Mystic Shrine of Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Swanson is a man of modest and retiring disposition, of a quiet and courteous manner, easy of approach and cordial in his intercourse with and reception of others. His calmness, however, conceals an ability possessed by few men, so that the esteem in which he is held as a citizen and a public servant is only excelled by that with which he is regarded by those who know him intimately through constant intercourse with him at his home and in the world of affairs.

---

### SWAN SWANSON.

With the death of Swan Swanson, which occurred March 24, 1907, the last of the trustees of the little colony of Bishop Hill, which was established in 1853, passed away. Not only was he numbered among the small band of men who set out from their native land to found a home in this country and make a settlement where they might find full exercise for their religious ideas, but throughout the life of the colony and later that of the town, he played a conspicuous part. Although he retired from active life for more than a quarter of a century before his death, his influence was still potent for advancement and his aid was ever ready where there was worthy need almost to the day of his death.

Swan Swanson was born in Walla, Soderale, Helsingland, Sweden, May 28, 1825. As the son of a farmer he spent the early years of his life in tilling the soil, and as he approached manhood became imbued with the ideas advocated by Eric Jansen. Finally he decided to cast his lot with the sturdy followers of that apostle and in company with other Jansenists left his native land August 21, 1846. The journey to America was protracted according to our present-day notions of ocean travel and it was the 13th of October before the party landed in New York. Thence they made the journey to Albany by steamboat, where they took a canalboat for Buffalo, and proceeded by propeller on the Great Lakes

to Chicago. The remainder of the journey, from that city to Bishop Hill, the final destination of the colony, Mr. Swanson accomplished on foot, and once having settled with his compatriots he became a prominent figure in public affairs and filled important offices. Upon the organization of the colony, in 1853, he was elected one of the seven trustees, a position he held continuously throughout the existence of the colony, and for the same length of time he superintended the mercantile department. In 1854 he was appointed postmaster and until 1872, when he retired from active life, he distributed the mail to the members of the colony and later to the inhabitants of the town. In 1860, in partnership with Jacob Jacobson, Sr., he engaged in merchandising on his own account, conducting a general store with profit until 1872.

On the organization of the village of Bishop Hill in 1860, as one of the trustees of the colony, Mr. Swanson assisted in laying out the town, and then served as president of the village board and as one of the trustees for a long period. His public efficiency reached even farther, for more than sixteen years he was township school treasurer, and for twelve years was township school trustee, fulfilling the duties of both offices with a care and fidelity to trust imposed upon him which marked the entire course of his life. The last years of his life he passed in the retirement of his home, but he was ever ready to give advice to those who sought it, and to give substantial aid where a worthy cause presented itself. For some time he had been in feeble health and had not left his house since the September before his death, when he attended the Old Settlers Reunion, and still when the apoplectic stroke came that put an end to his life it was a shock to all.

Mr. Swanson had been married twice. On the 2d of July, 1848, he wedded Miss Christiana Gabrielson, who bore him seven children. Two daughters and two of the sons died in infancy, but three sons survive—Walter, Linnie and John. Mrs. Swanson died October 2, 1877, and October 8, 1881, Mr. Swanson married Miss Kate Erickson, who with a daughter, Dorothy, survives him. His life, which had been a constant devotion to high ideals, has left its impress upon the men and women among whom he lived, and whose welfare was his deep concern. They are the better for the memory of his service in their midst and this surely is the sincerest praise which may be bestowed upon a good man.

---

### JACOB KROLL.

Among the foreign born residents of Galva who are figuring prominently in the business circles of this city is Jacob Kroll, to whom the consensus of public opinion accords a foremost place among the highly respected and honored citizens of the community. As the name indicates he is of German descent, his birth having occurred in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, on the 15th of March, 1856. He lost his father when a little child, too young to remember him, and the years of his boyhood and early youth were spent in the home of his widowed mother, where he remained until seventeen years of age. During that time he acquired his education in the common schools of his native land and after

putting aside his text-books he applied himself to mastering the cabinet-maker's trade with the intention of making that his life work. He had scarcely reached young manhood ere rumors reached him concerning the splendid advantages offered by the new world, and thinking to obtain better opportunity for advancement along business lines, in 1873, when but seventeen years of age, he left the fatherland and came to the United States, arriving here with but five cents in his pocket. He did not tarry on the eastern coast, however, but came direct to Illinois, locating in Pekin where he joined an uncle, Jacob Kroll, with whom he made his home for a short time. He then began working at his trade, which he followed for several years, and during this period was very successful. He was called upon, however, to suffer the loss of his furniture factory by fire, this catastrophe leaving him almost penniless, and as though to attest the truth of the old adage that "Misfortune never comes singly," he was immediately taken ill with chills and fever, and for some time was compelled to give up all work. Undaunted, however, by this double trouble, when again able to assume business activities he accepted a position in a furniture factory in Peoria, where he was engaged for several years. He was then identified with carpentering for a number of years and subsequently took up the millwright's business. He located in Davenport, where he was again burned out, losing all of his tools. He then took a trip through the west and after his return to Illinois accepted a position as foreman in the Peoria Oatmeal Mills, which he occupied for fifteen years. The year 1901 witnessed his arrival in Galva, where he purchased the cereal and feed mill of William McBride & Son, in the conduct of which he has since been actively engaged. Since becoming proprietor of the mill he has made many substantial improvements therein and has built up an excellent trade, the thorough and comprehensive experience previously obtained along this line well fitting him for carrying on an enterprise of this nature. He is directing his energies toward the successful control of the mill and his good business ability and close application are proving potent factors in the success which is now his.

In 1877, Mr. Kroll laid the foundation for a happy home life in his marriage to Miss Lena Weers, a daughter of Harry and Margaret Weers, and as the years passed five children came to bless that union. John, the eldest, makes his home in Chicago, where he is a bookkeeper in Marshall Field's store. He married Annie Reinhart and in their family are four daughters. Minnie, the second in order of birth, became the wife of John Zweifel, and with their two children, Harold and Ruth, they make their home in Peoria. George assists his father in the operation of the mill, while the other two, Carl and Harold, both passed away in early life. After the death of the wife and mother Mr. Kroll was again married, his second union being with Miss Lena Mennett, who is also deceased, having been called to her final rest August 24, 1909. They became the parents of two children, Gussie and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Kroll is a member of the Lutheran church, the teachings of which form the guiding influence of his life, and he has always been deeply interested in church work, doing all in his power to further its influence throughout the community. He gives his support at the polls to the republican party but has never sought nor desired office for himself, preferring to devote his entire attention to the conduct of his personal affairs. He has never had occasion to regret his

determination to seek his fortune in the new world, for in this country where individual effort is unhampered by caste or class he has won success which places him among the progressive and prosperous business men of the community in which he resides. His success, however, has been honorably won for the methods which he has pursued have at all times been honest and upright, while his integrity of purpose and the high principles which govern his life have gained him the unqualified respect and regard of his fellowmen.

---

### DAVID WINE.

The upbuilding and developing of a community does not depend upon its machinery of government or even upon the men who control its municipal affairs, but upon those who are active in its commercial and professional circles, lending their aid and influence to progressive public measures and promoting through their individual interests not only their personal success but also the business progress of the community. To this class of men belongs David Wine, who in 1904 came to Kewanee and established the works of the Kewanee Iron and Metal Company, of which he is sole proprietor.

A native of Prussia, Mr. Wine was born on the 19th of May, 1874, and is a son of Mayor and Dora Wine, the former a farmer in Prussia, Germany. He has always devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of a large tract of land of twenty thousand acres.

David Wine began his education in the public schools near his father's home and also attended the colleges of that district. In one respect Germany has gone ahead of America in her educational institutions in that her colleges are supported by the state and thus the opportunity of a collegiate course is open to all. After completing his studies David Wine turned his attention to bookkeeping in Lodz, entering the employ of one of the largest cotton importers of that country. He spent two years there and then sought the opportunities of the new world.

In the meantime, however, Mr. Wine was united in marriage on the 5th of January, 1897, to Miss Rebecca Lavin, of Prussia, and in June, of the same year, crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States. They did not tarry on the eastern coast but made their way to Chicago, where they resided for two years, during which period Mr. Wine was employed as bookkeeper by the Cable Piano Company. He afterwards traveled for the Joseph Iron Company of Aurora, Illinois, buying and selling iron. This was a wholesale enterprise, which he represented for four years. In 1904 he came to Kewanee and established the Kewanee Iron and Metal Company. He is sole proprietor of the business, which has become one of the most important industries of the city. He handles about one thousand cars per year and buys and sells iron from New Orleans to Omaha, Arkansas and Oklahoma. His yards are well equipped with the most modern and important machinery and the plants which he has instituted for the control and expansion of his business are such as are producing excellent results.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wine have been born three children: Ruth, Erwin and Laura. The family attend the Orthodox Jewish church and Mr. Wine in his

fraternal relations is connected with the Masons and the Elks. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world for he has here found the opportunities he sought and in his business life has made steady progress, placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of energy, determination and progressiveness.

---

### GEORGE DUFF.

Among Henry county's venerable citizens is numbered George Duff, who has now passed the eighty-eighth milestone on life's journey, and his record has at all times been so honorable, his actions so manly and his purpose so sincere that he now receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has lived long and well. He was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1821, his parents being William and Mary (Johnson) Duff, who were also natives of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. The former was a son of John Duff who was likewise born in the Keystone state and was a farmer by occupation. Unto him and his wife were born six sons and four daughters. The maternal grandfather of George Duff devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits. He wedded Martha Johnson and both lived to an old age. William Duff, the father of our subject, was a tanner by trade and conducted business of that character in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, near the place where his birth occurred. He died there when about fifty-seven or fifty-eight years of age, while his wife passed away at the age of forty-seven years.

In their family were twelve children, but George Duff is now the only survivor. He was reared in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, pursued his education in the public schools and worked in a tan yard and ground bark. Later he engaged in teaming for a time and subsequently turned his attention to farming in Pennsylvania, but, rightly judging that the middle west offered better opportunities to the agriculturist, he came to Henry county in 1857 and here rented land. A few years later he purchased a farm of eighty acres to which he afterward added a tract of similar size. For some years he remained upon that place and at different times owned farms in the county but lived mostly in Penn township. At one time he was the owner of two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land but eventually sold his farm to his son and for fifteen or twenty years has made his home in Geneseo.

Mr. Duff was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Cyphers, who was born in Penn township, Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of Philip and Nancy (Quinter) Cyphers, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. Mr. and Mrs. Duff became the parents of six children, of whom four are now living: Nancy Ellen, the wife of Darwin R. Amsden; William, who wedded Rebecca E. Wilson; Anna, the wife of George H. Wilson; and Mary Frances, the wife of Charles Magee. Of the family John P. and Freddie died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Amsden have three living children: Cora B., Ina M., and Roscoe John, while Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one son, Alden George. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Magee are Elsie M. and Elan C. Mrs. Mary Ann Duff died

November 1, 1906, at the age of eighty-two years and one month. She was a member of the Christian church and a most estimable lady whose many good traits of heart and mind endeared her to all who knew her.

In his political views Mr. Duff has long been a stalwart democrat. He has resided in Henry county for fifty-two years and is one of the most highly respected citizens. He has always been an honest, hard-working, upright man and has made his way in the world unaided, since he started out for himself empty-handed. His industrious habits and good management, however, have secured him a competency for his old age. In the early days he bought land when it was cheap, and his son now owns and operates the old homestead. The farm is now finely improved and is today worth one hundred and fifty dollars an acre. Mr. Duff owns a good and comfortable home on North State street close to the business part of the town. Though past eighty-eight years of age he is quite active for one who has traveled thus far on life's journey, and at all times he keeps informed on the current events of the day. He is very social and genial of nature and it is a pleasure to converse with him. He has a host of friends who hold him in the highest esteem for his life has ever been upright and honorable. Although he has now advanced far on the journey he still keeps a cheerful spirit and sheds around him the cheerful influence of a sunny disposition. His record is altogether most creditable and no history of the community would be complete were there failure to make prominent mention of George Duff.

---

### IRA COUCH MILLER.

On the roll of Henry county's honored dead appears the name of Ira Couch Miller, who for almost sixty years lived within the borders of the county, this covering the entire period of his life save the first six months. He always took a deep interest in what was being accomplished along the lines of substantial growth and improvement, and in his own business affairs kept abreast with the trend of general development. Mr. Miller was born September 16, 1842, the place of his nativity being Gran de Tour, Illinois. His parents were Abram and Sarah Ann (Southworth) Miller, the former a native of East Hampton, Suffolk county, New York, where he was born August 24, 1816. Sarah Ann Southworth was born at Bemis Point, near Jamestown, New York, and was a daughter of Hiram and Rachel (Couch) Southworth. They removed from the vicinity of Jamestown, New York, to Henry county, Illinois, when this district was largely an undeveloped region and with its early progress were closely associated. Mr. Southworth served for some years as justice of the peace and was otherwise closely associated with public interests. His wife died when more than seventy years of age. Their family numbered six children, including Sarah Ann Southworth, who in the year 1842 gave her hand in marriage to Abram Miller. He had come to the west in 1838 and had settled in Geneseo. They were married at Spring Creek and remained among the pioneers who were busily engaged in reclaiming this district for the uses of civilization. During the first sixteen years of his residence here Mr. Miller devoted most of his time to the carpenter trade, but in

1854—the year in which the Rock Island Railroad reached Geneseo—he embarked in the hotel business and for forty years was well known as the popular host of a hotel, especially of the Geneseo House. He died July 8, 1893, at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife passed away in 1902 at the age of eighty-two years. They were the parents of three sons and a daughter.

Ira Couch Miller was only six months old when his parents took up their abode in Geneseo, so that he was reared in Henry county. The public schools of the town afforded him his educational privileges, and when not busy with his textbooks and after he had completed his education he was his father's assistant in the hotel. After the outbreak of the Civil war he went to Springfield to enlist and was there made clerk of the commissary department. Subsequently he was transferred to Rock Island and then to Camp Douglas, where he remained until the camp was discontinued by reason of the cessation of hostilities and the inauguration of peace. After the war he continued in the hotel business with his father, and this brought him a wide acquaintance, while his genial manner and many substantial qualities gained for him the warm regard of those with whom he came in contact.

On the 16th September, 1866, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Josephine McFarlane, a daughter of Andrew and Keziah Ann (McCloskey) McFarlane. Mrs. Miller was born in Pulaski, Pennsylvania, June 19, 1847. Her father was born on a farm in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, September 23, 1804, and was a son of John McFarlane, who was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, but was born of Scotch parentage, belonging to the McFarlane brothers' clan, whose exploits and accomplishments constitute an important part in the Scotch history, the home of the family being on Loch Lomond. John McFarlane wedded Katharine McNickle and after coming to America, they resided at Lowellville, Ohio. Mr. McFarlane purchased fifteen hundred acres of land in Pennsylvania and gave to each of his children a farm. The family name was originally spelled McFarland. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Miller were Thomas and Rachel (Creighton) McCloskey and resided at East Palestine, Ohio, where both died, the former when more than sixty years of age while the latter had passed the seventieth milestone on life's journey when called to her final rest.

Andrew McFarlane, the father of Mrs. Miller, was married December 10, 1845, to Miss Keziah Ann McCloskey, who was born in East Palestine, Columbiana county, Ohio, September 22, 1826. On the 20th of October, 1851, they arrived in Henry county, Illinois, and took up their abode in Geneseo, where he engaged in the dry goods business, opening a little line of goods in Deacon Ward's woodshed where the Collegiate Institute now stands. In the east he had been engaged in merchandising, and at the time of the big Pittsburg fire, in 1847, his cotton mills were destroyed. He was a staunch advocate of abolition and was one of the committee of five in Geneseo who conducted the underground railroad. On retiring from the dry goods trade he looked after his landed and other property interests in Geneseo, for he had made extensive investments in real estate. He died January 27, 1885, at the age of eighty-one years and thus passed away one of the prominent and representative citizens. He was survived for some time by his wife, who died December 29, 1898, at the age of seventy-two years.

Their only child was Mrs. Miller, who by her marriage became the mother of two sons and a daughter: Andrew Abram, who married Jessie Frances Vilas and has been in the employ of the J. V. Farwell Dry Goods Company, of Chicago, from the age of eighteen years; Lulu Grace, at home; and Percy Burdette, who died in 1882 at the age of two years. The husband and father passed away April 8, 1901, when fifty-nine years of age. His many good qualities having gained him a large circle of warm friends his death was deeply regretted by many who knew him. Practically his entire life had been spent in Geneseo and few had a wider acquaintance. His social qualities were such as made him a genial landlord, while his business ability well prepared him for the duties which devolved upon him in connection with the management of a hotel. Mrs. Miller has also spent the greater part of her life in this county, and she, too, is widely and favorably known in the city where she has made her home for so many years.

---

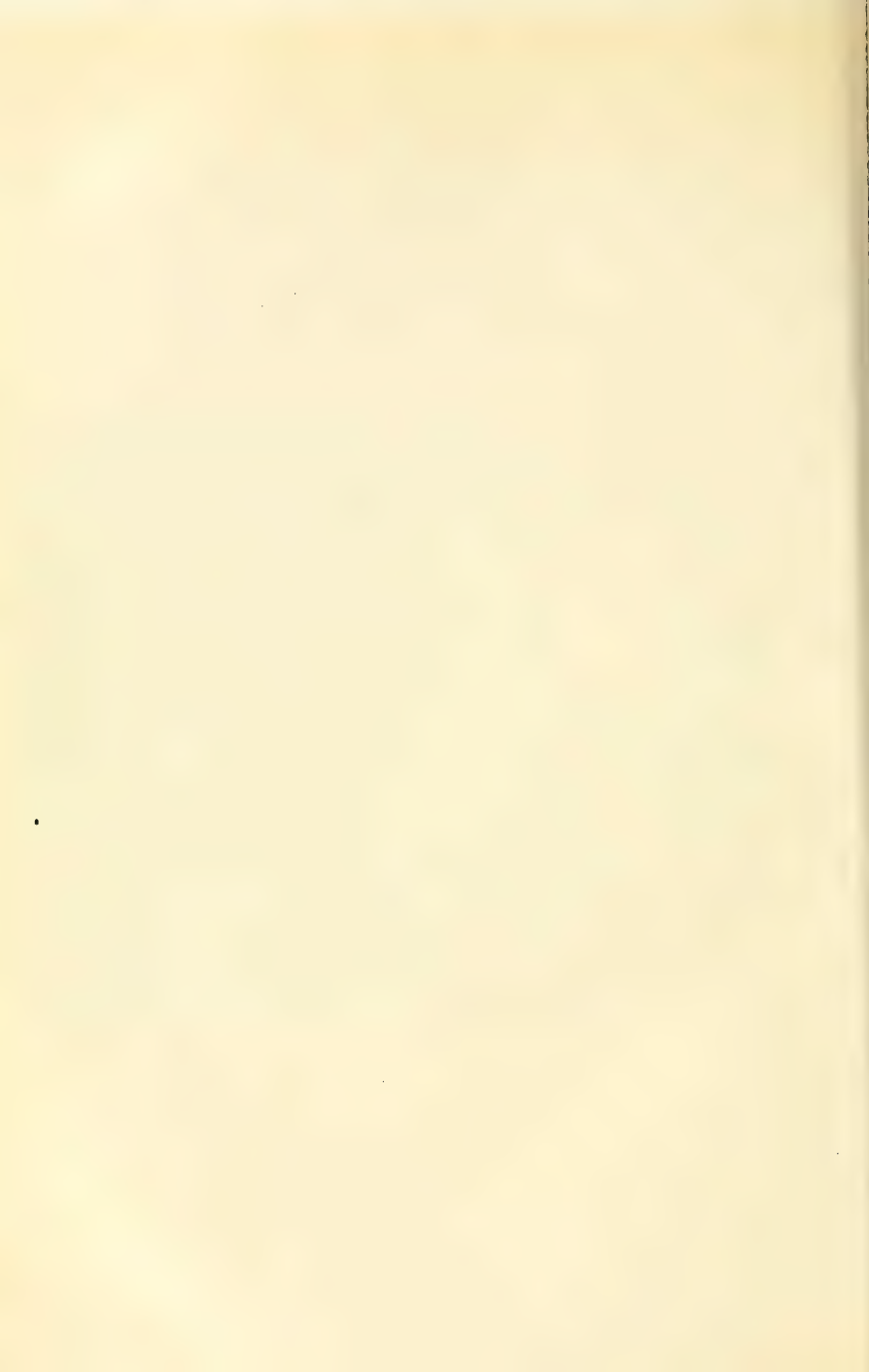
### CARL FREDERICK JOHNSON.

A finely improved farm of eighty acres located in Weller township is the home of Carl Frederick Johnson, who was born in Collamerlane, Smoland, Sweden, September 10, 1840, a son of Jacob and Lena Johnson, who were likewise native of that country and there spent their entire lives, the former passing away in April, 1888. The mother is also deceased.

Carl Frederick Johnson was reared in his native country and was there educated in the public schools. After starting out upon an independent business venture he worked at farm labor and also for some time in a stone quarry. He remained in Sweden until twenty-nine years of age, when, foreseeing no future there and having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities to be enjoyed in the new world, he accordingly set sail for America in 1869, arriving at his destination—Bishop Hill—on the 1st of May of that year. A little later, however, he continued his journey to Iowa and for a year worked on the railroad. He then returned to Bishop Hill and for two years was employed at farm labor near this place. During these years he carefully saved his earnings for his one ambition was to engage in business on his own account. To this end he then rented sixty acres of land lying northeast of Bishop Hill and to its cultivation gave his attention for six years. Through this means he gained his real start in life. In 1878 he possessed a sum of money that justified his purchase of land and accordingly he became the owner of forty acres, which constitutes a portion of his present home place. The tract at that time bore little resemblance to its present condition. When he bought it it was covered with timber. Mr. Johnson in due time had this cleared off and he then erected a good house, barn and other outbuildings, divided his land into fields by building fences, and through modern methods of farming placed his land in a cultivable state. In a few years he was able to purchase forty acres more and he now owns eighty acres. He has added to his residence, which is now one of the fine country homes of his section of the county. For thirty-two years he was actively identified with farming interests, his main crops being corn and



MR. AND MRS. C. F. JOHNSON



oats. He has been so successful that in the past year he purchased two lots and a nice residence in Bishop Hill, to which place he will remove in the spring of 1910. He still retains possession of his farm property and rents the same.

Mr. Johnson was married in this city to Miss Christine Soderburg, a daughter of Olof Soderburg, who came from Sweden to Bishop Hill in 1865, and rented a farm in Weller township for about three years and in Clover township for five years. He then removed to Kansas, where he purchased a farm near the town of Dwight. Mr. Soderburg passed away in January, 1906, but his wife is still living and remains on the farm with one of her sons. Mr. Johnson is a republican, stanch in his advocacy of its principles. His first presidential ballot was cast for James A. Garfield and he has supported every candidate of the party since that time. He takes a deep and active interest in local affairs and is most loyal to his adopted country.

---

#### EZRA S. DEAN.

Ezra S. Dean, who since 1900 has lived retired in Galva, was formerly successfully engaged in farming for many years and is still the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land in Cambridge township. His birth occurred in Chester, Vermont, on the 14th of February, 1841, his parents being Ezra and Eliza (Sargent) Dean, likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. The paternal grandfather, Darius Dean, was a native of Massachusetts and followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He passed away at Chester, Vermont, when eighty-five years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Esther Fisher, also lived to attain a ripe old age. They reared a large family of children. Ezra Sargent, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was likewise a farmer by occupation and died at Chester, Vermont, when well advanced in years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Betsy Putnam, was more than ninety years of age when called to her final rest. They, too, had quite a large family of children.

Ezra Dean, the father of Mr. Dean of this review, was engaged in general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career. He was sixty-one years of age when called to his final rest, his demise occurring in Illinois in 1855, while he was on a visit to his older children. He was twice married and his second wife, the mother of our subject, passed away about 1875 when sixty-eight years of age. She was a Baptist in religious belief and Mr. Dean was a devoted member of the Congregational church. Their union was blessed with two children, namely: Ezra S., of this review; and Julia E., the deceased wife of Allen J. Davis. Mr. Dean first wedded Miss Phoebe Burgess, by whom he had three children, as follows: Rosanna, the deceased wife of James H. Hewitt; Leverett B., a resident of Kansas; and Lucia M., the widow of S. B. Arnold, of Creston, Iowa. Mrs. Eliza (Sargent) Dean was also twice married and by her first husband, Abner Field, had a daughter named Zilia. She became wife of A. W. Davis, of Chester, Vermont, but is now deceased.

Ezra S. Dean was reared on his father's farm near Chester, Vermont, and there remained until the latter's death. He supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the district schools, by a course in Chester Academy. In 1862 he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company H, Tenth Vermont Infantry, loyally defending the stars and stripes until honorably discharged on the 1st of December, 1865. He served as a private until 1864 and afterward acted as first lieutenant and adjutant of the Forty-third Regiment of United States Colored Troops. He participated in all the battles of the Richmond campaign and took part in most of the engagements under Grant, beginning with the battle of the Wilderness. When the country no longer needed his aid he returned to his home in Vermont and soon afterward removed westward to Logan county, Illinois, where he shipped cattle and handled stock for a year. In the fall of 1866 he came to Henry county and, in association with A. W. Davis, purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Cambridge township. Subsequently he bought half of Mr. Davis' interest and his holdings now embrace four hundred and eighty acres of finely improved and highly productive land. For a third of a century he carried on the work of the fields with good success, his care and labor being annually rewarded by bounteous harvests. Since 1900, however, he has lived retired in Galva, making his home in a commodious and beautiful residence which he erected on North street.

On the 5th of March, 1867, Mr. Dean was joined in wedlock to Miss Marian Hobley, a native of Brooklyn, New York, and daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth Hobley, both of whom were born in England. The father was a silk manufacturer and after coming to this country took up his abode in Brooklyn, New York. Unto him and his wife were born four children, namely: Arthur R., who is deceased; Mrs. Dean; Thomas H.; and Ada, living in Galva.

At the polls Mr. Dean casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, being convinced that its principles are most conducive to good government. He still maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Galva Post, G. A. R., and while living in Cambridge township belonged to A. A. Dunn Post. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the Baptist church and are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives. He has now made his home within the borders of this county for more than four decades and is well entitled to representation in this volume as one of its substantial, respected and enterprising citizens.

---

#### LEON VAN ZELE.

Leon Van Zele is proprietor of the Red Mill at Geneseo, in which connection he does grinding and sells all kinds of feed and also flour and coal. He established business in March, 1907, and in the intervening period has developed a substantial and gratifying trade.

Mr. Van Zele was born in France, May 26, 1868. He deserves all the credit implied in the term "a self made man." He was a youth of twelve years when

in 1880 he came to America with two uncles. He was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Warnock, four miles east of Atkinson, Henry county, from the time he was thirteen years of age and always called them father and mother. He found with them a most pleasant home and was carefully reared by them as a farm boy, the district schools affording him his educational privileges. When eighteen years of age he went to Colorado and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he afterward sold, removing thence to Fillmore county, Nebraska. He conducted a feed mill at Strang, Nebraska, for sixteen years and on the 1st of March, 1907, came to Geneseo, where he purchased the Red Mill. He here does grinding and sells flour and coal, together with all kinds of feed. His business has reached large and profitable proportions and his success is well merited.

In 1893 Mr. Van Zele was married to Miss Gertie King, a daughter of Charles P. and Melvina (Van Nice) King. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Van Zele have been born four children: Verlie; Gladys, who died in May, 1908, at the age of thirteen years; Howard; and Ruth, who died March 8, 1908, at the age of two years.

Mrs. Van Zele is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Van Zele belongs to Geneseo lodge of Odd Fellows. Politically he is a stalwart republican and has been quite active in local political circles. While living in Strang, Nebraska, he served as mayor and was alderman of the city for several years, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many measures for the public good. He was also a school director for three years and the cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion. An orphan boy, he started out in life for himself at the age of thirteen years, acquired a good common-school education and has bravely fought the battle of life, coming off victor in the strife. He possessed a stout heart and willing hands, and his industry and energy succeeded in winning for him the confidence and good will of those with whom he lived, of his neighbors and of those who belong to the larger circle of acquaintances that is his since he actively entered business life. He has the good will of the entire community, possesses a genial, courteous nature that wins him friends, while his business enterprise has placed him in a substantial position as a representative of the trade interests of Geneseo.

---

#### FREDERICK GUNTHER.

The name of Frederick Gunther is inseparably interwoven with the history of Kewanee in its material development, business activity and substantial improvement. He figures prominently in connection with many of the "first events" which have had to do with shaping the history of the city and in more recent years has taken an active part in promoting the manufacturing interests of Kewanee, being now a member of one of the most extensive and important productive industries which have made Kewanee a leading manufacturing center of Illinois.

A native of Germany, Frederick Gunther was born June 15, 1832, a son of Michael Gunther, who was a carpenter by trade. In his native land Frederick

Gunther was reared and educated and after leaving school was apprenticed to the brick mason's trade in which he became an expert workman, being employed in that line of labor until he came to Kewanee.

It was in the year 1855, when a young man of twenty-three years, that Frederick Gunther arrived in this city, having come to America as the result of enticing tales which he heard concerning the business opportunities of the new world. Here he took up the brick mason's trade and erected the present City Hall, also the building at the corner of Tremont and Second street, including four stores, one of which is now occupied by the Savings Bank. He was formerly the owner of this block. At length, abandoning building operations, he turned his attention to the manufacture of brick, established Gunther's Brick Yard, which became one of the early and important industries of the city. He manufactured brick and erected the first brick building for the Haxtun Heater Company. The product of his kilns was such as to secure him an excellent and growing patronage and he continued in the manufacture of brick until 1890, when he withdrew from that field of activity. His business had developed to large proportions and the plant covered ten acres. Prior to 1890 he made the brick for nearly all the brick blocks in the town, including the Savings Bank building, the Odd Fellows Hall, the Lyman building and the Pierce building. After he had ceased to engage in brick manufacture he devoted his time for a period to the erection of six brick houses. In 1890 he formed a partnership with his two sons, Frank and William Gunther, and with Peter Wistrand, for the manufacture of what is known as the Peters Pump. When the Gunthers bought into the pump works there were but two men employed and the growth of the business is indicated in the fact that employment is now furnished to between thirty-five and forty workmen. The trade gradually increased, and the scope of the business was extended to include the manufacture of Kewanee Planters and Gunther Hot-Water Heaters. Today the output includes a full line of pumps, planters and hot-water heaters and the company makes extensive shipments, finding a ready sale for its product on the market in both America and Canada. The company is a private concern, all of the stock being owned by the father and two sons. The factory is well equipped with all facilities needed for the successful conduct of the business, the machinery being of the latest improved patterns, while skilled workmen are employed in the manufacture of the various products turned out. In addition to his manufacturing interests, Mr. Gunther has financial connection with other important enterprises and is now a director in both the First National Bank and the Union National Bank.

In 1857 Mr. Gunther wedded Miss Fredericka Brandt and they became the parents of a daughter and two sons: Mary, now the wife of Emil Spiegel, of San Diego, California; and Frank and William, who are associated with their father in business. Mr. and Mrs. Gunther hold membership in the German Lutheran church, to the support of which they make liberal contribution. Mr. Gunther has been prominent in community affairs, taking an active interest in all things that pertain to municipal affairs, and for five consecutive years he served as alderman of the village, doing everything in his power during his incumbency to advance the welfare and promote the growth of the town. Fraternally he is

connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in lodge as well as in business and social circles he has won the high regard of his associates. He is a man of sterling strength of character, and the steps in his business career are easily discernible. Progress has been his watchword and with a realization of the fact that in America labor is king, he has persistently applied his energies and so directed his labors that at any one point of his career he seems to have accomplished the full possibilities for success at that point.

---

### FRANK GUNTHER.

Frank Gunther, a member of the Gunther family of Kewanee, needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for through more than a half century the name has figured prominently in connection with the business development of the city. Frank Gunther was here born on the 9th of January, 1859, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. After he had put aside his text-books he began the manufacture of brick in connection with his father and the business relations between them have since continued. On withdrawing from the field of brick making they established the Peters Pump Company, and with the development and extension of the business they are now actively engaged in the manufacture of pumps, planters and hot-water heaters, their product having extensive shipment not only in this country but also across the border in Canada. Frank Gunther has always given his attention to promoting the growth and development of the business interests in which he has been associated with his father and is today recognized as one of the leading and representative business men of the city.

In October, 1882, occurred the marriage of Frank Gunther and Miss Emma Zabel. They have two children: Louis, who is now a bookkeeper in the manufacturing plant; and Hazel, at home. The family is prominent socially and Mr. Gunther is a member of the Commercial Club.

---

### WILLIAM GUNTHER.

William Gunther, a son of Frederick Gunther, was born in Kewanee, January 6, 1867, and his youthful days were passed in a manner similar to that of most lads of the period whose time was divided between the attainment of an education and the pleasures in which most boys indulge. He was educated in the public schools and in business college at Burlington, Iowa, and then entered business life in connection with his father's manufacturing interests. While he was fortunate in this respect, parental judgment was too wise to allow him liberties which other employes did not have and the demands made upon him in a business way were such as have developed his latent powers and energies, making him a forceful factor in the control of the Peters Company, now one of the leading manufacturing concerns of this section of the state.

William Gunther was married in 1893 to Miss Fannie Zabel of Faribault, Minnesota, and they have two children, Helen and Harold. William Gunther is also a member of the Commercial Club and occupies a similar prominent position to his father and brother in the social and manufacturing circles of the city.

---

### JOHN OGDEN.

In the years of his residence in Henry county John Ogden was known as a worthy citizen, and his name is now on the roll of Geneseo's honored dead. He was born in Pennsylvania, November 12, 1836, his parents being John and Remembrance (Evans) Ogden, who were early settlers of Phenix township, Henry county. His father secured a tract of land here and began farming but was not permitted long to enjoy his new home, his death occurring soon after his arrival. Unto him and his wife were born six children, four sons and two daughters, four of whom married and had children, namely: Elizabeth, who became the wife of John Taylor; Samuel; Emeline, who married James Dawson; and John. The mother of these children continued a resident of the county until her demise, which occurred when she was in middle life.

John Ogden was only a small child when brought by his parents to Illinois, and upon the old home farm in Phenix township he was reared, experiencing the usual routine of the life of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and also the Geneseo public schools and was thus well qualified by thorough mental discipline to meet and solve life's problems. His education complete, he began working at farm labor by the month and his practical experience well qualified him to take charge of a farm of his own, when his industry and economy enabled him to purchase one hundred and ten acres of land. This he improved and added to the property from time to time until he was the owner of two hundred and forty acres, while his wife had two hundred and eighty acres received from her father's estate. Mr. Ogden had managed both properties and in so doing had displayed excellent business ability, knowing what crops were best adapted to soil and climate and understanding the methods which could be most successfully utilized in the cultivation of his fields.

On the 1st of January, 1867, Mr. Ogden was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth Graf, a daughter of Gustavus and Barbara (Artman) Graf. Her paternal grandparents were George and Elizabeth Graf. Her parents were both natives of Germany, her father coming to America when about twenty-nine years of age, while her mother was only a little maiden of eight summers at the time of her arrival on this side the Atlantic. They were married in Maryland and afterward removed to Warren, Trumbull county, Ohio. In 1852 they made the long and arduous journey across the plains and through the mountain passes to California, and four years later they returned as far as Illinois, at which time they settled in Phenix township, Henry county, where Mr. Graf engaged in farming. In early manhood he had learned and followed the tailor's trade but here took up general agricultural pursuits and purchased a large tract of land, having at his death four hundred and eighty acres. He was born in Eisenach,

Saxe-Weimar, Germany, November 10, 1813, and died in Phenix township at the age of sixty-nine years, while his wife was born in Milhausen, Koenigreich Preussen, Germany, March 27, 1825, and passed away in Sterling, Nebraska, in the spring of 1889 at the age of sixty-four years. Their daughter, Mrs. Ogden, was born in Maryland, January 2, 1846, and by her marriage has become the mother of nine children: Anna R., now the wife of A. K. Clark, of Geneseo, by whom she has two children—Mary Ethel and Grace Elizabeth; John Otis, who married Elizabeth Beck; Lucy E., who died December 22, 1874, at the age of twenty-six months; Louis G., who married Effie Caffal, and has five children—John, Louise, Henry, Robert and Effie; Nellie M., who died February 17, 1894, at the age of seventeen years and ten months; James E., who married Helen Walker and has four children—Stuart, Cheston, Florence and John; Hulda, who for several terms was a teacher in the public schools and is now the wife of Charles W. Farber; Willis R., who married Hazel Limle; and Grace Elizabeth, who was also a teacher in the public schools.

The death of the husband and father occurred January 2, 1887, when he had reached the age of fifty years and two months. He was a member of the Methodist church and his wife, who survives him, is of the Presbyterian faith. Externally he was connected with the Odd Fellows, and his life embodied the sterling principles which underlie that order as well as the Christian teachings of the church. He endeavored to live peaceably with all men, sought success along honorable methods and made a record which at all times measured up to the highest standard of honorable manhood.

---

### ROBERT OTLEY.

Robert Otley follows farming on section 34, Kewanee township, and has contributed in substantial measure toward the agricultural development of the district. He has also taken active part in the substantial growth of Kewanee in that he has laid out three different additions to the city and has operated quite largely in real estate. His sound business judgment and enterprise are recognized as salient features in his life work, bringing to him the creditable success which is today his. He was born in Westow, Yorkshire, England, June 13, 1831.

His father, John Otley, was also a native of Yorkshire, where he engaged in farming until 1840, when he came to the United States and settled near Winchester, Scott county, Illinois, where he purchased a tract of unimproved land of three hundred acres. With characteristic energy he began its development and successfully carried on the work of the fields until his death, which occurred August 5, 1864, when he was seventy-eight years of age. He organized and built the first log schoolhouse of the district and also organized the first religious congregation, which held its services in the schoolhouse. It was through his instrumentality that the first circuit rider came to this district and in the early years the visiting ministers here were always entertained at his home. Thus, while carefully conducting his business interests, he also contributed to the intellectual

and moral progress of the community and his labors were a valuable factor in the early progress of the county. He married Jane Chapman, also a native of Yorkshire, and her death occurred October 29, 1875, at the age of seventy-nine years, in the home which is now occupied by her son Robert. The children of the family were George, John, Robert, Thomas C., Richard, William, and four daughters who died in England. Only two are now living, Robert, and Thomas, the latter a retired farmer of Neponset, Illinois.

Robert Otley acquired his education in the old log schoolhouse which his father built near Winchester, mastering the branches of learning through the winter months, while with the return of spring he took his place in the fields to aid in the cultivation of the crops, and not until the harvests were gathered in the autumn did he again have the privilege of attending school. When twenty-four years of age, upon his father's retirement, he took charge of the home farm and conducted it until he purchased his present farm of two hundred and fifty-four acres on the south line of Kewanee township and just southeast of the village. The former owner of the property was Sullivan Howard. The purchase was made in March, 1865, and Mr. Otley removed to the farm on which he has since lived. Later he bought forty acres in the village, adjoining his original tract on the west. In 1874 he erected a fine house on the first tract to replace the old dwelling. He brought with him from Scott county to this farm in 1865 forty head of cattle, a part of which were thoroughbred shorthorns, and for fifteen years he engaged extensively in the breeding of fine cattle and also Berkshire and Chester White hogs and high grade horses. He was the first to introduce thoroughbred shorthorns in this and some of the neighboring counties. He became widely known as a breeder throughout this section of the state and on the 10th of June, 1874, he held a sale which brought him over sixteen thousand dollars. He also engaged extensively in buying and shipping stock and was recognized as one of the foremost live-stock dealers of central Illinois. Since 1874 he has confined his attention to fine stock raising and general farming. At different times during the past fourteen years, especially in 1895, 1900 and 1902, he has operated quite extensively in real estate, laying out three additions to the city, comprising in all forty acres of land. Mr. Otley also, at his own expense, laid out one-half mile of East Prospect street, which is considered one of the finest streets in the city. He has also been interested in other real estate and now owns other farm lands and city property.

On the 28th of January, 1858, in Scott county, Illinois, Mr. Otley was married to Miss Rebecca Gibbs, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca Gibbs, who also came from England and were early settlers of Scott county, Illinois. Mrs. Otley died April 21, 1863, at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving three children: Ellen Jane, who was born in 1858; Mrs. Mary May Bunton, who was born in 1861 and lives in Kewanee; and George Thomas, who was born in 1863 and follows farming near Kewanee. Alice Ann, who was born June 23, 1860, passed away on the 15th of August, 1860. Mr. Otley was married a second time in Canandaigua, New York, on the 30th of March, 1876, to Miss Mary A. Hayes, of that place. She died April 4, 1877, at the age of thirty-nine years, leaving one son, Robert Hayes Otley who was born February 23, 1877, and died on the 16th of August, of the same year.

Mr. Otley cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, cheered for him in the parade at Jacksonville, Illinois, and in 1860 supported Abraham Lincoln, with whom he had a personal acquaintance. He was in the grand rally and parade at Springfield, Illinois, cheering for Lincoln and against slavery. He has since been a staunch republican and in early life was an active worker in the ranks of the party. He served as highway commissioner for several years and assisted in laying out some of the roads here. He has always been interested in the work of public progress and his aid and influence have ever been given on the side of improvement and advancement. He is respected by all because of his upright life, fidelity to duty and reliability in business affairs, and well deserves mention in this volume.

---

### WILLIAM LORENZO WICKSTROM.

William Lorenzo Wickstrom, owning and operating a fine farm on section 19, Galva township, was born in the house where he now lives, his natal day being September 6, 1866. His parents, Peter Mathias and Ingrid (Johnston) Wickstrom, were both natives of Gefleborg, Sweden. The paternal grandfather, P. M. Wickstrom, came to America and passed away on the home farm of his son, Peter M., his demise occurring when he was eighty-six years of age. The death of his wife occurred in Sweden.

Peter M. Wickstrom, the father of William L. Wickstrom, was a miller in his native land. He came to the United States in 1846 and made his way direct to Henry county, locating at Bishop Hill with the Bishop Hill colony. He farmed with the colony until 1860, when it was disbanded. In 1861 he offered his services in defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company D, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He first served as sergeant and was promoted from time to time until at the close of the war he was acting as captain. He participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh and a number of other hotly contested engagements and went with Sherman on the march to the sea. After taking part in the grand review he returned to Henry county and resumed agricultural pursuits, purchasing two hundred and ten acres of land in Galva township. As the years passed by he brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and improvement and continued to reside on this farm until the time of his death. The place is now in possession of his son, William L. He died on the 30th of October, 1890, when a little past sixty-three years of age, while his wife was called to her final rest on the 24th of August, 1899, being at that time seventy-three years of age. They were both devoted and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Peter M. Wickstrom held membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and in politics was a staunch democrat. He was one of the most worthy and respected pioneer settlers of the county and his labors proved an important factor in its early development and upbuilding. Unto him and his wife were born six children, as follows: Annie, the deceased wife of Valentine Newman; Jacob; John; Lottie, the wife of E. R. L. Rudmann; William L., of this review; and one who died in infancy.

William L. Wickstrom was reared on the farm which is now his place of residence and where he has lived throughout his entire life with the exception of a period of four years, which he spent at Galva in the employ of the railroad. In the spring of 1897 he returned to the home farm and bought out the other heirs to the property, which has since remained in his possession and in the cultivation of which he has gained a gratifying measure of success. The farm now embraces one hundred and thirty acres of rich and productive land on section 19, Galva township, and in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates the supervision of a most practical and progressive owner.

On the 4th of February, 1897, Mr. Wickstrom was joined in wedlock to Miss Carrie S. Peterson, whose birth occurred in Kalmar, Sweden, March 26, 1866. Her parents, Charles M. and Emma (Johnston) Peterson, came to the United States in 1872 and took up their abode at Bishop Hill, Henry county, Illinois. In 1876 they located in Galva township, where they rented land for a year and then established their home in Weller township. There Charles M. Peterson was actively and successfully engaged in the operation of a rented farm for twenty-two years. He and his wife now reside at Bishop Hill and have attained the ages of seventy-three and seventy-one years respectively. They reared a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, seven of whom still survive, namely: August J.; Gust F.; Manfred; Alvin; Mrs. Wickstrom; Amanda C., the wife of W. J. Frye, of Chicago; and Hildor E., the wife of Walfred Okerstrom, of Weller township. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Wickstrom, Carl and Maja Peterson, had quite a large family of children. The grandfather, who was a carpenter by trade, passed away in Sweden. The death of his wife occurred in Bishop Hill, this county, when she was more than seventy years of age. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Wickstrom were Johann and Greta Lizzie (Johnson) Johnson. The former, who was a miller by trade, was drowned in Sweden when about sixty-five years of age. He had six or seven children.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Wickstrom has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to Galva Lodge, No. 417. He has an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community in which his entire life has been spent and is widely recognized as one of the prosperous, progressive and enterprising citizens of his native county.

---

### JOHN F. PAPENTHIEN.

John F. Papenthien is now proprietor of a breeding and feed barn in Geneseo and belongs to that class of men who owe their business standing and success entirely to their own efforts for he has worked diligently and persistently as the years have gone by, placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of unfaltering energy and determination. He was born in Prussia, Germany, May 25, 1862, and is a son of John and Mary (Shimelman) Papenthien. The father was born in February, 1838, and the mother's birth occurred in 1830. She has been dead now for nearly four years but the father is still living. He served for

two years in the Prussian army and in the year 1868 came to America, settling first in Bureau county, Illinois, where he devoted his attention to farming for eleven years. The following year he removed to Wisconsin and in 1879 came to Henry county, Illinois, settling on a farm in Loraine township. He is now retired from active business and makes his home with a daughter in Geneseo. He is a republican in politics, having supported the party since becoming a naturalized American citizen, but has never sought nor desired office. His religious faith is that of the Evangelical church. Unto him and his wife were born nine children but only three are now living: Carrie, the eldest, is the widow of Henry Weber and resides in Geneseo. She has six children: Henry, who lives in Loraine township and has one child; Jacob, who resides in Hanna township and has one child; Ed, who lives in Geneseo township and has one child; Herman, also of Geneseo township, who has two children; Casper and Lydia, at home. John F. is the next of the family. Augusta, the youngest of the surviving children, is the wife of Philip Metzner, a resident of Ritzville, Washington, and she has six children.

John F. Papenthien was only six years of age when brought by his parents to the new world. He attended school in Bureau county, Illinois, but his educational advantages were somewhat limited for he began farm work when only nine years of age. He remained with his parents until twenty-four, when he started out in life for himself, following the occupation to which he had been reared. He then rented a farm in Henry county, upon which he lived for four years, after which he purchased his father's farm of two hundred and sixty acres in Loraine township. With characteristic energy he began its further development and improvement, practised the rotation of crops as he carefully tilled his fields and continued to develop his place after the most modern methods until 1899, when he withdrew from farming and established a feed and breeding barn. He has three lots on North Center street in Geneseo and in addition to his office there has a horse barn and feed barn, an ice house and machine shop. The last two buildings he rents, while the former two are used in the conduct of his business. He owns several full-blooded animals, two of which he values at from fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars. He is regarded as one of the leading horse breeders of the county and also does a profitable business in conducting a feed stable.

On the 23d of February, 1888, Mr. Papenthien was united in marriage to Miss Eva Gestner, who was born in Baden, Germany, in 1869 and is a daughter of Valentine and Margaret (Masengarb) Gestner, who were likewise natives of Germany and came to America about 1870 or 1871. The father was a farmer by occupation and devoted many years to tilling the soil but at length retired from active business and established his home in Geneseo. His political support is given to the republican party. Unto him and his wife have been born ten children and the family record is a notable one in that the circle remains unbroken by the hand of death. Susan, the eldest, is still at home. Eva is now Mrs. Papenthien. Barbara is the wife of Charles Rose, of Geneseo, and has one child, Lester. Maggie is the wife of William Sauttee, of Phenix township, Henry county, and they have two children. Dena is the wife of Emil Munter, a resident of Geneseo, and they have three children. Katie is the wife of Luther Henander, of Geneseo township, and has five children. Mary is the wife of Herbert Smith of Geneseo,

and has one child. Elizabeth is the wife of Robert Crisop, living in Loraine township, and they have two children. Emma is the wife of James Ellingsworth, whose home is in Colona township, and has one child. John, a resident of Kansas, married Marsha Decker and has one son, Royce.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Papenthien have been born six children, all of whom were born in Henry county and are yet living. Hattie, born September 13, 1899, is a 1908 graduate of the Geneseo high school and is engaged in the millinery business in Geneseo. Pearl, born September 17, 1891, is a 1909 graduate of the Geneseo high school and is now engaged in teaching in Geneseo township. Lloyd, born August 29, 1893, is attending school. Etta, born August 8, 1895, Mildred, born November 20, 1901, and Oral, born August 21, 1904, are all yet at home.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Papenthien are members of the United Evangelical church, in the work of which they are actively and helpfully interested. Mr. Papenthien is one of the class leaders in the church and his wife belongs to the Woman's Missionary Society. Both are connected with the Mystic Workers and with the Tribe of Ben Hur, and Mr. Papenthien gives his political allegiance to the republican party, for he has firm belief in the efficacy of its principles as factors in good government. He is a self-made man for, although his father is well-to-do, he left his son to make his own way in the world, and John F. Papenthien became a man of self-reliant spirit, of determined purpose and laudable ambition. At the time of his marriage he was practically empty-handed but with the assistance of his estimable wife, who has been most careful in the management of the household affairs, he has won success and is now in comfortable circumstances.

---

### HON. JONAS W. OLSON.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state to which they belong would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name initiates this paragraph. He holds distinctive precedence as an eminent lawyer and statesman, has been long recognized as a prominent representative of the democracy, and in many questions of vital interest his position has been one of acknowledged leadership. He has been and he is distinctively a man of affairs, and one who has wielded a wide influence. A strong mentality, an invincible courage, a most determined individuality have so entered into his makeup as to render him a natural leader of men and a director of opinion.

His birth occurred in Soderala, Sweden, June 30, 1843. It was not until he was fifty years of age that he obtained authentic knowledge of the exact date of his birth, for he was not only left an orphan at the age of three years but with one exception all of his relatives in America died, and had it not been for an aunt who cared for him he would have been left utterly alone. He was a son of the Rev. Olof Olson, who arrived in the United States in 1845 as the representative of a colony who desired to seek religious liberty in the new world. He was connected with a religious movement in Sweden which awakened the con-

demnation of the established church, and the new sect were forbidden to hold services. It is said that the Rev. Olson was arrested and forced to pay heavy fines for holding meetings or conventicles in his own home and that had he been again arrested he would have been banished, in conformity with an old Swedish law which is now obsolete. The desire to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience led him to seek the freedom of the new world, and eleven hundred of the same sect determined to emigrate for the same reason. Accordingly the Rev. Olson was chosen to select a favorable location for the colony, and in 1845 he came to the United States accompanied by his wife and two children. While there their child, Jonas W. Olson, who was then in very delicate health was left in the care of his grandmother and his aunt, Catherina Wilhelmina Petronella Skoglund, who were to bring him to America with the colony the following year if he were then living, which seemed very doubtful when the parents sailed for the United States. Up to that time the Swedish people had in only very limited degree left their native land for the new world, the Rev. Olson being among the pioneers of his countrymen to seek homes in America. Journeying westward in search of location for the colony he at length selected Bishop Hill as a favorable site, and the following year he was joined by that band of devoted Christian people whose influence was to be widely felt in the affairs of Illinois.

Jonas W. Olson was brought by his aunt to the new world. His illness had terminated in the paralysis of one limb, rendering him permanently lame, and this was but one of many disasters which followed him in his boyhood, for the day before he reached his father's home his mother died. Not long afterward his sister and brother departed this life and in a brief time his father and his grandmother were called to their final rest. He was thus left entirely alone save for his aunt, who had married Peter Dahlgren and was living in Galesburg. For a time Jonas Olson attended the school in that city, and after the removal of Mr. Dahlgren to a farm five miles from Victoria he walked a distance of two miles to attend school at Center Prairie—a long and often difficult journey to one in his crippled condition. At the end of fifteen years necessity obliged him to provide for his own support, and he began learning the shoemaker's trade under the direction of Ira C. Reed of Lafayette, Illinois, the terms of apprenticeship being that he was to receive twenty-five dollars per year. His employer, however, was a just man and, recognizing that his services were of greater value, he gave him double that amount as a compensation for his labor. He was most diligent and thorough in his work, and after he had completed his term of indenture he engaged in shoemaking for a year thus earning the funds that enabled him to continue his education in Galva high school. When his money gave out he returned to his trade and thus worked and studied alternately for some time. His review of the business world led him to the determination to make the practice of law his life work, and while following the shoemaker's trade he devoted the morning and evening hours to the study of Kent, Blackstone and other commentaries. His law studies were afterward directed by the late Hon. John I. Bennett, and in 1869 he successfully passed the required examination demanded for admission to the bar. Advancement in the law is proverbially slow, still in no profession is there a career more open to talent; yet the successful practitioner must not only be carefully prepared by a thorough understanding of legal principles but must

also have thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life and of the underlying principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. In the difficult school of experience Mr. Olson had learned many valuable lessons which now serve him in his practice, enabling him to understand human conduct, the various phases of life and the complexity of business interests, all of which are factors in successful law practice. Moreover, he has ever prepared his cases with great precision and care and has ever presented the case upon its merits, never failing to recognize the point at issue and yet never failing to give due consideration to details which bear in any way upon his cause. His retentive mind has ever excited the surprise of his professional colleagues, and he has won for himself very favorable criticism for the careful and systematic methods which he has followed. Thus, as the years have gone by, Mr. Olson has enjoyed an extensive clientage of an important character, being connected with many of the leading cases tried in the courts of his district.

Neither is Mr. Olson unknown as a law maker for in the state legislature he has been active in shaping the policy of the commonwealth. A recognized leader in political circles his fellow townsmen gave expression of their confidence in his ability and his loyalty in public affairs by electing him, in 1870, as a representative from Rock Island and Henry counties in the twenty-seventh general assembly. Although one of the youngest members of the house he took a very active and prominent part in its work, served on very important committees and on a number of occasions was called upon to act as speaker pro tempore. Only a short time prior to his election a very large number of the Swedish emigrants, who had obtained work on the Peoria & Rock Island Railroad, had through the insolvency of the contractors been swindled out of their wages and were left penniless in a strange land, among a people who spoke a tongue unfamiliar to them. To remedy evils of this character and prevent the recurrence of such injustice Mr. Olson procured the enactment of a law of which he was the author and which has ever since remained on the statutes of Illinois, giving to laborers who work for contractors or subcontractors a lien upon all property of the railroad corporation to secure their wages.

During the extra session of the legislature to consider the matter of the Chicago fire he visited that city, together with the other members of the house, and upon his return to Galva found his own home in ashes. Four times has he had to suffer that disaster, but his determined purpose and unflinching courage have enabled him to rise above all discouragement and resolutely undertake the task of retrieving his possessions. In 1881 he erected a fine business block in Galva, which stands as a monument to his enterprise and marked ability.

Mr. Olson has continued through many years as one of the leading representatives of the democratic party in this state and is regarded as the most prominent representative of the democracy among the Scandinavian people of the Mississippi valley. He voted with the republican party until the questions arising from the Civil war were settled, and then in 1872, like many men prominent in the party, he withdrew from its ranks and has since given stalwart allegiance to the principles of the democratic party. His position has never been an equivocal one. On the contrary, he has ever stood fearless in defense of his honest convictions, and while he might have attained higher political preferment in the ranks of the

republican party as most of his fellow countrymen are supporters of that cause he preferred to maintain his political integrity rather than enjoy the fruits and opportunities of office. In 1880 his party nominated him for state's attorney, and although he could not overcome the strong republican majority, which the county always gives, he ran more than a thousand votes ahead of his ticket, a fact which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellowmen. In 1884 he was again defeated for that office. Political preferment, however, came to him following the election of Grover Cleveland, who appointed him to the position of postmaster of Galva, in which capacity he served during both Cleveland's first and second administrations. After the end of his second term as postmaster he was nominated by the democratic party of his district as its candidate for congress. He has also been a member for the state at large of the Illinois democratic state central committee, and his opinions carry weight in the councils of his party. He is a logical, entertaining and forceful speaker, and his public addresses have won votes for the organization in which he believes.

On the 18th of November, 1869, Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Matteson, a daughter of Anson Matteson, who at the time of his emigration from Sweden held the rank of major in the Swedish army. He received a silver medal from the king on account of his efficiency as a soldier and a swordsman. Mrs. Olson was born in Ugglebo, Sweden, June 5, 1848, and was a little maiden of eleven summers when brought to the United States. By her marriage she became the mother of three daughters: Mary Aurora, born September 11, 1870; Maude Violet, born November 10, 1876; and Mabel Winifred, whose birth occurred October 24, 1880. The eldest was graduated from Knox College, June 12, 1896, and is the wife of Ivan Bell. Maude V. became the wife of Edward I. Seely, who was drowned in Cedar River near Mount Vernon, Iowa, a year later. Mabel W. is a graduate of the Knox College Conservatory of Music, where she engaged in teaching music for a year, and she is now teaching private classes at home, being recognized as one of the most capable instructors in music in Galva.

Such in brief is the life history of Mr. Olson, and the record is a creditable one, for at all times he has lived up to a high standard of honorable and manly principles, making good use of his time and opportunities and exerting his influence for the betterment of the community in every possible way. At the semi-centennial celebration of the arrival of the Bishop Hill colony at Bishop Hill, September 23 and 24, 1896, he was called upon to deliver a public address, from which we quote the following:

"In July, 1846, Olof Olson was joined by Eric Janson, and together they fixed upon Henry county as the place to locate the settlement, my father having already purchased forty acres of land in Red Oak Grove, but a short distance west of here, which to this day is known as 'Olson's field.'

"In the fall of the same year came the Jonas Olson party, among whom was my grandfather and aunt, who brought me over. I am told that the day previous to our arrival my mother had died. She had not yet been buried and I do not know whether I remember seeing her or not; it seems to me that I have a sort of a dazed, hazy recollection of being ushered into the presence of some one

dead, but whether I then knew that I was looking upon the face of my mother, knowing that it was cold in death, I do not know and cannot tell. If at the time of her death she knew that I was on the way, and so very near, that if her life could only have been spared another day she would have been permitted to see her unfortunate child once more, if only to greet him with a last parting glance expressive of what no tongue can describe—a mother's love. I can imagine that as that sainted mother closed her eyes to the last sad scenes of earth, in her unspeakable anguish her last thoughts were probably to wonder what would become of her poor crippled boy. My father, sister, brother and grandmother all died only a few days later, and it seems so passing strange that of the entire family I should have been the only one to survive and be allowed the privilege of participating in the celebration of this fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Bishop Hill. The feelings that overwhelm me make me almost wish that the doctrine of the spiritualists might be true. If disembodied spirits were permitted to look down upon the scenes of earth, it might be a consolation to that sainted mother to know that her then seemingly unfortunate child is thus honored and that the people in this world with whom his lot has fallen have been so kind to him."

Mr. Olson is an orator of more than average ability, and his well chosen language is the expression of clear-cut thought, logical deductions and wise reasoning. He is regarded as one of the most prominent and influential residents of the county, honored for what he has accomplished, while his ability has gained him the success that is richly merited.

---

#### PETER HERDIEN.

The specific and distinctive office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest esteem of himself and his accomplishments but rather to leave a record establishing his position through the weight of public opinion. While Mr. Herdien takes no special credit to himself for what he has accomplished, a careful analysis of his record will show that his advancement is attributable entirely to his own efforts; that without family or pecuniary advantages at the outset of his career he has labored long and diligently to attain success and at the same time has gained his prosperity without sacrifice of other interests.

Peter Herdien was born in Lingbo Skog Parish, Sweden, May 23, 1844, his parents being Hans Hanson and Catharine Jonson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather was Hans Hanson (Check), the last name being a military title. He was a farmer by occupation but died in Sweden when almost eighty years of age. His wife, Anna, passed away a few years later and had also reached an old age. They were the parents of four sons and three daughters, of whom one is now living—Nels Rosen, a resident of Stromsburg, Nebraska. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Jons Jonson, a farmer, and both he and his wife, Christina Jonson, died in Sweden when well advanced in years. They had two sons and three daughters but all are now deceased.

The father of our subject was Hans Hanson Herdien, whose last name was also a military title. He also followed farming and for many years engaged in



PETER HERDIEN



the milling business but afterward returned to farming. He died in Sweden about 1866 at the age of fifty-six years, while his wife survived him until 1891 and was seventy-six years of age at the time of her death. Both were of the Lutheran faith and Mr. Hanson was active in the church work and served as chorister of the church. He was also a volunteer in the regular army. His family numbered two sons and a daughter: Hans, deceased; Peter, of this review; and Christine, living near the old home in Sweden.

Peter Herdien was reared in Sweden and acquired his education under his mother's instruction. He began learning the cabinetmaker's trade when sixteen years of age just after his confirmation in the church and served an apprenticeship of four years at cabinetmaking and fresco painting, attaining to a high degree of efficiency during that period. In 1864 he crossed the Atlantic to America and settled first near Oneida, Illinois, where he worked for a short time on a farm. The succeeding winter was passed in Knoxville, Illinois, at cabinetmaking, after which he again located near Oneida, Illinois, and was engaged at house building and carpenter work until 1869. Subsequently he spent one year at cabinetmaking in Woodhull and in 1870 came to Galva, where he purchased an interest in the furniture store of Headstrom & Peterson, the firm name being changed to Peterson & Herdien. They conducted a successful business until 1885, when their store was destroyed by fire, after which they dissolved partnership. They had also established branch stores at Cambridge, Illinois, and Kearney, Nebraska, but sold these. About 1876, they established a coal business on a small scale and it was eventually merged into the Herdien Coal Company, a corporation, which sank and operated a number of coal shafts. Mr. Herdien next became closely and prominently associated with the development of the coal interests in Galva and the business brought to him substantial and gratifying success. From 1891 to 1895, while taking a vacation in Chicago, he was called home to assume the management of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company in the capacity of president and financial representative, which company is now reaping the benefit of his labor. He retained that position until 1908, when he resigned, leaving the company in a first-class business and financial standing. His business judgment is sound, his enterprise marked and his progressive spirit so strong that his cooperation has long been regarded as a most valuable factor in the business circles of the city and locality. He became one of the original stockholders of the First National Bank which was organized in 1882 and held the position of vice president of the bank until the death of Adam Deem, when he succeeded to the presidency and has continued in that capacity ever since. The bank was organized with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, with Adam Deem, president; Peter Herdien, vice president; and O. P. Stoddard, cashier. It has become one of the strongest financial concerns of the county, its policy being a safe, conservative one, while its methods of business are thoroughly progressive. The present officers are Peter Herdien, president; A. F. Deem, vice president; and V. A. Wigren, cashier; and the condition of the bank at close of business April 28, 1909, was as follows:

## RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts .....	\$ 341,276.53
Overdrafts .....	1,214.63

U. S. Bonds .....	30,000.00
Stocks and Securities .....	129,105.25
Banking House and Fixtures.....	12,000.00
Cash and Exchange .....	102,855.49
Redemption Fund .....	1,500.00

---

\$ 617,951.90

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock .....	\$ 60,000.00
Surplus and Profits .....	45,341.56
Circulation .....	30,000.00
Deposits .....	482,610.34

---

\$ 617,951.90

On the 6th of November, 1870, Mr. Herdien was united in marriage to Miss Martha Johnson, who was born in Bollnes, Sweden, and when nine years of age came to America with her parents, Lars and Brita ( Ericson) Johnson, who settled near Victoria, Illinois. Her father there passed away, while her mother died in Galva. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Herdien have been born three children: Jennie Madelia, the eldest, is the wife of Fred P. Bodinson, president of the Citizens National Bank at Baker City, Oregon, and they have two children, Colleen Geneva and Earl Herdien Bodinson. Walter Lawrence, the elder son, is an attorney of Chicago, and married Mabel Sharp, of Kewanee, by whom he has one son, Walter Lawrence. Elmer Forrest is a practicing physician of Martin-ton, Illinois. He married Nellie Johnson of Kewanee. The mother has been in poor health for a number of years and has spent much of her time with her son, Walter, in Chicago, besides traveling a great deal for her health.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Herdien are members of the Methodist church. His political allegiance is given to the republican party which finds in him a stal-wart supporter. He has served on the town board and has also been a member of the school board for many years. The consensus of public opinion is that he aims to do his duty in the affairs of Galva and Henry county, for the extent and importance of his business interests are such that his life work has had some bearing upon the material growth and development of the community in which he lives.

---

#### FRANCIS A. MCHENRY.

Francis A. McHenry, who for many years was a farmer of Phenix township, was born in White county, Illinois, September 27, 1828, a son of William and Susanna (Land) McHenry. The father was a native of Kentucky and was born in 1803, while the mother was a native of White county, Illinois, 1811 being the year of her birth. In 1820 William McHenry settled in White county, and later came to Henry county, securing a claim of government land. There he passed the remainder of his life, being buried upon his own farm when death called him

in 1868, for he had given of his land to make a cemetery. When he came to this state it was still a wilderness and Indians were frequently to be seen. His wife died in 1890. They were the parents of twelve children, eight of whom are now living. They were: Francis A., of this review; Coke, who lives in Kansas; J. Benson, deceased; Charles Holiday, who lives in Cambridge; two who died in infancy; Elizabeth, the widow of Isaac Stafford, a resident of California; Mary, the widow of Brown Mapes and a resident of Davenport, Iowa; Julina, the wife of George Imel, of Rushville, Illinois; Emma, the widow of Silas Aldrich, of Geneseo, Illinois; Laura, the wife of Frank Cox, of Dakota; and Malinda, who is the wife of Absalom King, of Nebraska.

Francis A. McHenry received his education in the schools of Phenix township, and until he became of age he worked for his parents on the home farm. He then bought of his father one hundred and twenty acres of the land the latter had procured from the government and on this he lived until he relinquished the active duties of life and retired to the pretty house he had built in 1881. There the closing years of his life were spent in the enjoyment of the fruits of his arduous labors and of the pleasures of home. On the 1st of October, 1893, he passed away and was buried in the McHenry cemetery, known as Oak Grove. Since his death his widow has carried on his interests. She is a woman of considerable business ability and her investments have brought her profit.

In 1858 Mr. McHenry wedded Miss Polly Ann Foster, who was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, March 22, 1837. She is a daughter of William Y. and Mary A. (Park) Foster, both natives of Kentucky, where the father was born February 14, 1811, and the mother July 22, 1816. Mr. Foster was a teamster in early life, but came to Illinois, in 1830, settling in Macoupin county, where he pursued farming. He later removed to Galena and then to Phenix township, this county, where he passed the last five years of his life in the home of Mrs. McHenry. He died in February, 1905, and was buried in Oak Grove cemetery. His wife had died many years before, in 1877, and was buried in the cemetery at Morseville, Jo Daviess county, Illinois. They were the parents of ten children, only one of whom has passed away. Of these Mrs. McHenry was the eldest; Nancy is the widow of Wellington McCreery, and lives in Dubuque, Iowa; Isabelle married S. C. Gault, who is now dead, and she lives with friends; S. Ellen Foster is a dressmaker in Cripple Creek, Colorado; Julia A. is the wife of I. M. Rawlings and lives in Colorado; Martha married Milton Singer and passed away in 1893; Josephine is the wife of Harmon Hopkins and lives in Alma, Nebraska; Rosana is the wife of Edward Arnold and also resides in Nebraska; Henriette married Samuel Clay, now deceased, and she lives in Cripple Creek, Colorado; and Mary E is the wife of Frank Arnold and also makes her home in Colorado. Mr. Foster served in the Black Hawk war and as a republican occupied most of the county offices within the gift of the people. With his wife he was a devout member of the Methodist church and was a conspicuous figure in the early congregations.

Mr. and Mrs. McHenry had eight children: William, born April 26, 1859, in Henry county on the place where his mother now resides, died in 1903. Oscar, who was born October 4, 1860, lives with his mother. Alvin, born November 23, 1862, married Miss Lottie Weimer and lives in Wayne county, Illinois.

They are the parents of three children—Harry C., born in 1892; Helen Irene, born in 1899; and Lloyd Alvin, born April, 1903. Frank, the fourth child of our subject died in infancy. Mary F., born May 23, 1867, is the wife of Wilber L. Roberts and lives in Phenix township. Park, born December 19, 1869 is unmarried and lives with his mother. Ollie A., born January 20, 1873, married John A. McKibbon and lives in Atkinson township. She has three children—Robert Orrin, born November 1901; Gertrude M., born November 23, 1903; and Ethel F., born May 16, 1909. Anna May, the youngest of the family, was born May 2, 1876, and died on the 19th of that month.

One hundred years ago, in October, 1809, Mr. McHenry's maternal grandfather, R. Land, came to Illinois to make it his home. His descendants have continued the work of development which he began and when Mr. McHenry himself passed away the stories he had heard from him were tales of the far distant past. During his life, he, too, did his share in the progressive work of Phenix township, for besides being a farmer and stockman who knew how to make his efforts pay he was a man of public spirit. In his political views he was a democrat, while his religious allegiance as given to the Methodist church, it being the faith in which he had been reared.

---

### J. J. HADLEY.

J. J. Hadley, who is well known in Osco as the proprietor of the largest business enterprise in the city, is a native of Osco township, his birth having occurred on a farm a half mile east of the town where he now resides, the date of his nativity being November 18, 1863. His parents were David and Susan (Kilmer) Hadley, the father a native of Lincolnshire, England, and the son of John Hadley. He came to America in company with a brother when about eighteen years of age and for three years remained in Lockport, New York. When about twenty-one years of age he came west to Illinois, where he had a brother residing in Munson township, Henry county. He became engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county and later became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Osco township. It was in that township that he was united in marriage to Miss Kilmer, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of William and Lucinda Kilmer, with whom she came to Henry county in early life.

The son, J. J. Hadley, whose name introduces this review, was reared to manhood on his father's farm about a half mile east of Osco, and acquired a good common school education, being a student in the Cambridge high school for a short time and also took a collegiate course in the college at Geneseo. After laying aside his text-books he remained on the home farm, continuing to give his father the benefit of his assistance until about twenty-eight years of age. In the meantime, under the latter's direction, he acquired a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and in the school of experience learned many practical lessons concerning the value of industry, energy and perseverance. He was married on the 12th of August, 1891, in Meadow Grove, Nebraska, to Miss Cora L. Attwater, of that place, and the young couple

began their domestic life upon a farm, which Mr. Hadley continued to operate for a few years. In 1897 he began buying and shipping live stock and a year later became identified with the grain business and has continued his connection therewith to the present time. For one year he bought and shipped grain, loading directly on the cars, and then, in 1899, erected an elevator to facilitate the handling of the business. In 1900 he began dealing in lumber and as the years have gone by has continued to extend the scope of his activities to include various enterprises. In October, 1908, he purchased the elevator and lumber trade of Samuelson & Company and his business now covers the following commodities: grain, flour, feed, salt, agricultural implements, building material, woven wire fencing, tile, etc. Under his careful management his undertaking has already assumed extensive proportions, being considered the largest business enterprise in Osco, and it is continually growing in volume and importance. His success indicates clearly the business ability which he has displayed and his untiring energy and unfaltering industry have been salient elements in the gratifying degree of prosperity which is now his.

With the passing of the years the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hadley has been blessed with three children, George C., Alice L. and Attwater, all of whom are still under the parental roof. The mother, however, has been called to her final rest, her death, which occurred on the 19th of September, 1904, being a matter of deep regret not only to the bereaved family, who knew her as a loving wife and mother, but throughout the community where she was recognized as an excellent neighbor and true friend. In his fraternal relations Mr. Hadley is a member of Camp No. 2248, M. W. A., and in politics gives stalwart support to the republican party. Although he has never been an office seeker, he was elected to the office of assessor, in which capacity he served for one year. A man of resourceful ability, constantly watchful of opportunities which he improved to their full extent, he has made continuous progress in the business world, and the success which he now enjoys is all the more merited because it has come entirely as the result of his own well directed efforts and his honorable and upright methods.

---

#### LEONARD R. BOTHWELL.

Leonard R. Bothwell, who resides in an attractive home on Washington street, Orion, Illinois, was for many years identified with the agricultural interests of Henry county and is classed among those men whose industry, diligence and well directed efforts have gained for them a degree of success which now enables them to live retired and enjoy in well earned rest the fruits of their former toil. A native of New York, he was born in Jefferson county on the 28th of April, 1838, a son of David and Jemima (Spencer) Bothwell, both of whom were also born in the Empire state. The family is of Scotch lineage, the grandfather on the paternal side having been a native of Scotland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. David Bothwell were born five children, of whom our subject is the youngest. The others are: Mary B., who married James Scott and resides in DePere, Brown county, Wisconsin; Martin, a shoemaker of Watertown, New York, who mar-

ried Marinda Chapin; Jeremiah, who wedded Sarah Davis, and resides in Oswego, New York, where at one time he followed the trade of a molder; and David, who married Maria Wilson and makes his home in Hannibal, New York.

Leonard R. Bothwell was a little lad of six years when he lost his mother and his father passed away when he was only eight years of age. At the age of ten years he went to Wisconsin with his sister, Mrs. Scott, and in the common schools of Brown county, that state, he acquired a fair education. The days of his boyhood and youth were there passed amid the scenes and environment of rural life and he gained much practical experience on the farm and in the lumber camp. In 1860, when twenty-two years of age, he came to Henry county, Illinois, on his way to Knox county, but upon the road he met Mahlon B. Lloyd, who, in the course of a conversation which they held, learned that he was seeking work and offered him employment upon one of this farms in Western township. This Mr. Bothwell accepted and he was thus engaged until August, 1861, when, actuated by a spirit of patriotism, he enlisted under a recruiting officer as a soldier in the Civil war, becoming a member of the Eleventh Ohio Battery. He went to St. Louis to join his company and spent the winter of 1861 in central Missouri, being first under fire at New Madrid. He participated in the battle of Iuka, where on the 19th of September, 1862, he was wounded by being twice shot through the right arm and side. He was sent to the hospital at Jackson, Tennessee, and was there honorably discharged January 12, 1863, because of these wounds. After leaving the army he went back to his sister's home in Wisconsin to recuperate, remaining there until the spring of the following year. He then returned to Henry county and again entered the employ of Mr. Lloyd, with whom he remained until the fall of 1864, when he went back to Wisconsin. In the spring of 1865 he went to Tama county, Iowa, where he operated a rented farm until the spring of 1867, when he returned to Henry county and on June 6, 1867, was united in marriage in Western township to Miss Florence D. Lloyd, a daughter of his former employer, who was born in Western township, Henry county, on the 12th of May, 1844.

Mahlon B. Lloyd, the father of Mrs. Bothwell, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and was the son of Jesse and Ann (Yardly) Lloyd. He came to Henry county in the fall of 1837 and was the very first settler in Western township, locating on section 27. He purchased two hundred and forty acres of land at two dollars and fifty cents per acre, and there in the spring of 1838 erected the first dwelling in the township, a frame house built of oak, in which he continued to reside until his marriage. He was a very successful farmer and one of the extensive landowners of the locality, becoming the possessor of eight hundred or more acres of valuable land. He was well known in Western township, being a prominent figure in community affairs, serving in various township offices. He was a school director in the first district, which comprised the entire township. He had himself enjoyed the advantages of good educational training and the cause of education ever found in him a warm champion. He served as justice of the peace for many years and also as supervisor for some time. His death occurred on the 12th of November, 1882. In 1840 he had married Miss Amelia L. Davenport, a native of Greenwich, Connecticut, who came to Henry county, with her parents in 1838, when about sixteen years of age. Charles Davenport, one of

her brothers, had come to this county with the New York colony in 1836 and here entered land for the family in Edford township. Mrs. Lloyd survived her husband several years, her death occurring on the 18th of September, 1902. In their family were three children, of whom Charles, the only son, passed away in infancy. Mrs. Bothwell was the second in order of birth, while the youngest daughter, Isabelle, married William Love and became the mother of five children. Of this number John and Lizzie both passed away in infancy, while Mahlon, who is also deceased, married Grace Ferguson and left three sons. Arthus is an attorney in Chicago, and Edgar C., a farmer of Western township, is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

After his marriage Mr. Bothwell took up his abode upon a farm which his father-in-law had given him on section 22, Western township, and upon that place he continued to reside throughout the remainder of his active business career. He devoted his entire energies to the development of this property and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. As the years passed he prospered in his undertaking and was able to add to his farm until today he owns three hundred and six acres located on sections 22, 23, 26 and 27, Western township, all in excellent condition, constituting one of the valuable and desirable properties of the township. Industry, energy and perseverance have characterized his labors and were the salient elements in a success which later enabled him to retire from the active duties of business life, and consequently he left the farm and removed to Orion, where he has since resided in a home on Washington street.

Although well known throughout the community as a successful business man, Mr. Bothwell is perhaps equally prominent by reason of his interest and activity in community affairs. A stalwart republican in politics, he cast his first presidential ballot in 1864 for Abraham Lincoln, since which time he has supported every candidate upon that ticket. He has held various township offices, serving as assessor for a number of years and as collector for two years, while he filled the office of supervisor for twenty-one years continuously. Something of his personal popularity in the community was indicated when in 1909 he was elected to the office of mayor, his fellow citizens thereby conferring upon him the greatest honor in their power to bestow. He has already given evidence of a business-like, progressive and beneficial administration, in which he has inaugurated various needed reforms and improvements, and his record thus far has not only brought honor to himself but reflected credit upon his constituents.

With the passing of the years the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bothwell has been blessed with thirteen children, namely: Ada F., who married Charles Anderson, of Western township, by whom she has six children; Herbert L., who married Otilia Blixt and makes his home in Orion; Amelia, the wife of Edward Reed, of Rock Island, Illinois; Esther, residing with her parents; Lizzie, the wife of Harvey Foster, of Maple Hill, Emmet county, Iowa; Elwood, who married Estella Nelson and is assisting in the operation of the home farm; Arthur C., also operating the home farm, who married Mabel Bell and has one child; William, who is still under the parental roof; Clarence, a resident of Moline, Illinois, where he is engaged in teaching music; and four who died in infancy.

Mrs. Bothwell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while her husband, although not identified with any special denomination, is interested in

church work and recognizing it as a force for good in the community, is a generous supporter of all church organizations. Fraternally he is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America Camp, No. 261, and has held the office of quartermaster of Edgar Trego Post, No. 394, G. A. R., since the organization of the post in 1884. Mrs. Bothwell holds the office of treasurer of Edgar Trego Corps, No. 293, W. R. C. His active business career was ever such as to warrant the trust of his fellowmen, for at all times he conducted his transactions along the strictest principles of honor and integrity. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned and the honor bestowed upon him in his election to offices of honor and trust shows that he occupies a high position in public regard and enjoys in large measure the confidence of his fellowmen. Orion has benefited by his efforts in her behalf and he is, without invidious distinction, classed among the foremost representatives of Western township.

---

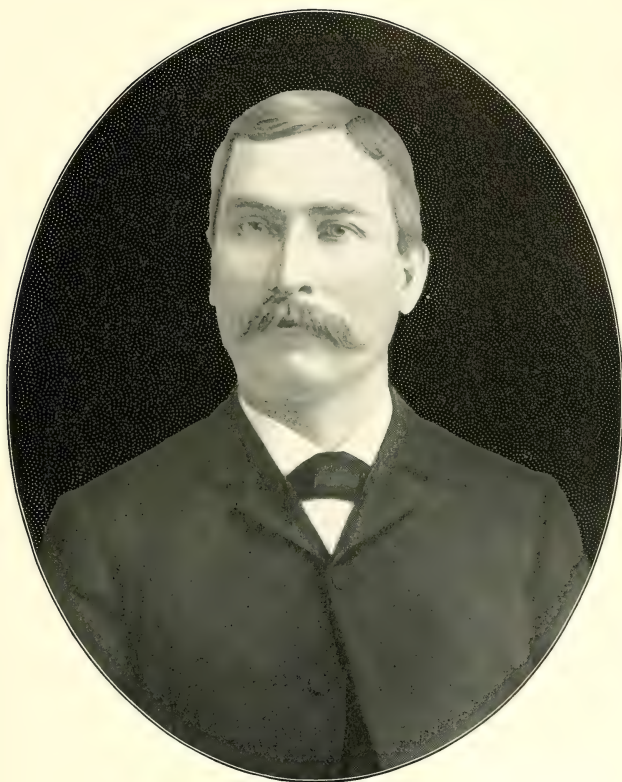
### WILLIAM WALLACE SEELY.

William Wallace Seely, who was connected with the agricultural interests of Wethersfield township for a long period and developed one of the valuable farming properties of the county, was born in Barlow, Washington county, Ohio, April 17, 1853. His father, Joseph Seely, also a native of that state, was a carpenter by trade and died in Ohio at the age of seventy-six years. He was a great-grand son of William Seely, who served in the Revolutionary war. The mother, Mrs. Caroline (Richards) Seely, died when her son William was but four years of age.

In the public schools of his native town William W. Seely pursued his education and at the age of sixteen years began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand. He was thus employed to the age of twenty-one, when in February, 1875, he came to Illinois and settled in Kewanee. He was then employed at farm work near this city for three years, after which he was married and began farming on his own account.

It was on the 24th of December, 1878, that Mr. Seely wedded Miss Electa J. Fulper, a daughter of Charles T. Fulper, a native of Pennsylvania and a wheelwright by trade, who came to Henry county in 1851. He followed farming in Wethersfield township, being actively connected with the cultivation and development of the soil until his life's labors were ended in death on the 28th of May, 1884. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Hoppock, was a native of New Jersey and a daughter of John Hoppock, who became a prominent farmer of Wethersfield township. The death of Mrs. Fulper occurred September 13, 1904.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Seely rented the Hoppock farm of one hundred and ten acres on section 25, Wethersfield township, and following the death of Mrs. Hoppock about seven years later he purchased the farm and continued its cultivation until his demise. He made various improvements and in addition to tilling the soil and producing crops best adapted to climatic conditions here he also raised considerable stock, having about fifty or sixty head



WILLIAM W. SEELY



of cattle and an equally large number of hogs. In connection with his own he also operated other farm land adjoining and his practical methods and undaunted enterprise brought him a substantial measure of success. On coming to this county he borrowed money but acquired financial independence before his demise and so was enabled to leave his widow well provided for. He was widely known as a man of the highest integrity, thrift and industry, never taking advantage of his fellowmen in any business transaction but seeking his success along the legitimate lines of trade.

In 1876 Mr. Seely became a member of the Methodist church and lived an earnest Christian life, endeavoring to shape every action by the teachings and principles of Christianity. His membership was in the Saxon Methodist church, in which he had served as steward for twenty years prior to his demise. In politics he was a stanch republican and was strongly opposed to the liquor traffic, doing all in his power to further the cause of temperance. His death occurred May 28, 1904, when he had reached the age of fifty-one years, one month and eleven days, and his demise was the occasion of deep regret to the many friends whom he left behind. In the fall of 1904 Mrs. Seely rented the farm and removed to Kewanee, where she has since resided. On the 1st of May, 1906, she bought a modern eight room house at No. 106 North Vine street and in February, 1906, she purchased forty acres adjoining her farm. Her property there is a valuable one, returning to her a substantial annual income. Like her husband she is deeply interested in the work of the Methodist church, as treasurer of its missionary society and superintends the home department work of the church. She is kindly and considerate to others and her many good qualities have won her high esteem.

---

#### CARL EDWARD PETERSON.

The progressive ideas which contribute so much to success in the field of agriculture have been conspicuous elements in the life record of Carl Edward Peterson, who owns and operates a fine tract of land in Colona township. He was born in Western township, near the place on which he now resides, November 5, 1874, and is a son of Carl P. and Mary (Erickson) Peterson. The parents came from Sweden in 1868, settled first in Andover, this county, and later removed to the vicinity of Orion, where they remained a few years. Finally they took up their residence in the locality in which the family has since lived. Here the father followed farming with a success that has rendered ample return for his labor. He is still living, but his wife passed away July 3, 1906. Four children were born to them: Hida, who is the wife of John Nelson, of Osco township; Selma, who has remained unmarried; Louise, who is the wife of Otto Samuelson, of Orion township; and Carl Edward, the subject of this sketch.

Carl Edward Peterson spent his youth upon the home farm, assisting his father in whatever work there was to be done, while he attended the district school, where he received a fair education as preparation for the responsibilities of life. Even after he attained his majority, he gave his father the benefit of

his labor, for it was not until 1905 that he married and established a home of his own. In that year he rented the eighty acres which constitute his place today and has since engaged in diversified farming, his success being the just reward for persevering industry. Progressive in his ideas, he has spared nothing in order to bring his place to the highest degree of cultivation, to improve the character of the buildings with which it is adorned, or to increase the abundance of the harvests, gathered from the fields. While these things have ministered to his own success they have also redounded to the total prosperity of the community in which he lives.

On the 22d of February, 1905, Mr. Peterson was joined in wedlock to Miss Lena Kuschmann, a daughter of William and Louise Kuschmann, of South Heights, Rock Island. Three children have been born to them: Marguerite, Paul and Marie.

Mr. Peterson is a consistent member of the Lutheran church and is closely identified with its work. A republican in his political views, while he has been interested in questions of public interest and has ever exhibited a deep concern in the welfare of his fellow citizens, he has never sought office and could never be persuaded to accept any evidence of the trust the people would place in him and his judgment were he to signify his willingness to be their servant. He has been very active, however, in the ranks of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, for he is a member of Riverside Lodge, No. 684, of Colona, in which he has held the greater number of the chairs. Keenly alert to the best interests of the people, industrious and progressive, Mr. Peterson is one of the splendid citizens of Colona township, enjoying the respect and good will of those who have come into contact with him. He and his wife are devoted to their home and their family, so that the harmony of their relations affords a striking example of domestic felicity.

---

### PHILIP JOHN STONEBERG.

Philip John Stoneberg was born in Bishop Hill, Illinois, April 3, 1875. At the age of seven he entered the village school and finished the work presented in 1890. He entered Knox Academy at Galesburg in 1893 as a middle-preparatory student. He joined the E. O. D. literary society and was its essayist in the annual contest between it and the Zetetici, the other men's literary society in the academy, in 1895. In the last-named year he won the Lawrence preparatory Latin prize. He entered the freshman class at Knox College in the same fall, pursued the classical course for four years and was graduated in 1899 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

While a student in college he received the Lawrence freshman first Latin prize in 1896, likewise the freshman essay prize for the best essay on the Lincoln-Douglas debates. He was a member of the Gnothautii literary society throughout his college course and in his sophomore year won the society's Colton debate prize over three other debaters. In this debate he supported the negative of the following subject, "Resolved, That there should be a tribunal of three

judges instead of the present jury system, the unanimity verdict being understood in each case." The affirmative was supported by another sophomore, while two juniors debated a separate question.

Mr. Stoneberg was a member of the Knox Young Men's Christian Association since his academy days, was one of its delegates to the Young Men's Christian Association summer conference at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, in 1897, and served as its president in 1897-98. In his junior year he took part with three senior students in the Vivion currency debate when the three circuit judges of the ninth circuit served as judges of the contest; also participated in the junior oratorical contest. He was college reporter for the *Daily Republican Register*, a Galesburg paper, during the year 1897-98; served on the editorial staff of the *Coup d'Etat*, a college monthly, in the same year and on that of the *Knox Student*, a college weekly during both his junior and senior years. He was also in his junior year an associate editor of the '99 *Gale*, a college annual.

In his last year at Knox he was president of the Gnothautii Society, in which he had already held various offices; a member of the Pundit Club, an organization of instructors and students and limited in membership; speaker of the Mock congress held jointly by the two men's college literary societies; and a participant in the Knox-Beloit preliminary debate. In the latter part of his college course he studied vocal music in the Knox Conservatory in addition to his regular work, and in his last year was a charter member of the college glee club, which was then definitely organized.

He was interested in athletics and was a member of the track team during his last three years at Knox, receiving the third place in the mile walk at the inter-collegiate contest in 1897 and second in 1898. He belonged to the Knox Cadet Corps from the time he enrolled in the academy until the corps was disbanded at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. In that period he took part in two contests for the Mills' medal, winning second place the second time. When the corps was disbanded he was sergeant major of the battalion, the highest ranking non-commissioned officer. In his senior year the Roll of Honor for scholastic achievement was instituted by the college authorities and he was awarded a place on the same. He was the valedictorian of his class, his commencement oration being on the subject, "The Scandinavians in America."

Mr. Stoneberg took up the work of teaching in the fall of 1899 and was principal of the Bishop Hill public school for the next five years. As he had more than a year's extra work to his credit when he was graduated from Knox College he had only to write a thesis to entitle him to the degree of Master of Arts from his alma mater. In 1901 he accordingly wrote a thesis on the subject, "Was the French State Under the Bourbon Kings a True Monarchy?" The thesis was accepted and he received in the same year the aforementioned degree.

In 1904-5 he was a student at Columbia University, pursuing courses in history, economics and education. Fulfilling the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts at that institution, which included the writing of an approved essay, he obtained this degree in 1905. The title of his essay was, "The Beginnings of the American Navy." In 1905-6 he studied at Harvard University, specializing in history and economics, after which he was at Bishop Hill until the fall of 1909, when he returned to Harvard for another year of study, elect-

ing courses in history, government and education. During the period intervening between his years at Harvard he was taken up with domestic duties, did some private tutoring, and in April and May, 1909, was again principal of the Bishop Hill school. He was also engaged in some historical research, chiefly in local history. He has contributed to this work the chapter on the Bishop Hill Colony, the sketch of the Swedish camp-meetings, the account of the Henry County Sunday School Association, and has rendered also some other assistance. He has at various times corresponded for some of the county newspapers. Since 1903 he has been an active member of the National Educational Association. At the Knox College commencement in 1909 there was a reunion of his class, when he was chosen class secretary.

Mr. Stoneberg was clerk of the village of Bishop Hill from 1899 to 1905 and trustee from 1908 to 1910. He has also served on the Weller township republican central committee and has represented that township in the Henry County Anti-Saloon League. He is a member of the Henry County Historical Society, representing Weller township in the collection of historical data. He has been secretary of the Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association since 1899 and treasurer of the Bishop Hill Memorial Association since 1907.

He joined the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church at Bishop Hill on probation August 11, 1889, and was received into full membership February 9, 1890. He has held various offices in its quarterly conference and was licensed by this body a local preacher August 21, 1908. He was secretary of the Sunday school in this church from 1889 to 1893, and superintendent from 1899 to 1904. He was teacher of the men's class in this Sunday school in 1908 and 1909, likewise served as superintendent and teacher on Sunday afternoons in the Maple Hill Sunday school one and one-half miles west of Bishop Hill. He has been secretary of the Henry County Sunday School Association since the fall of 1899. He is a charter member of the Bishop Hill Epworth League, which was organized in August, 1890, and is the oldest Swedish Epworth League in the world. He has held various offices in this chapter. While a student at Knox he was one year president of the Galesburg Swedish Epworth League. He was at one time secretary of the Galesburg District Epworth League, Central Swedish Conference, and later its president. He was secretary of the Galesburg District Camp Meeting Association, Central Swedish Conference, from 1897 to 1905; treasurer, from 1906 to 1908; and was elected secretary again in 1908, which office he still holds.

---

#### DR. HENRY P. LOOMIS.

Dr. Henry P. Loomis, a dental practitioner of Galva, who is likewise extensively engaged in the real-estate and insurance business as a member of the firm of Loomis & Riner, was born near Morrison, Whiteside county, Illinois, on the 17th of December, 1866. He was adopted by Henry F. Baker and his wife, Martha R. (Loomis) Baker. He was taken to Chicago when eleven months old and obtained his education in the Brown public school, which was located on the

west side of that city. In 1880 he came to Galva, this county, and for the following eight years lived in the old Baker House. Subsequent to his marriage he returned to Chicago and took up the study of dentistry in the American College of Dental Surgery, now known as the Northwestern University Dental School. He completed the prescribed course in that institution in March, 1892, and in 1896 returned to Galva, where he successfully practiced his profession for about nine years. He erected the stone building next to the Baker House and soon gained recognition as one of the most substantial, progressive and enterprising citizens of the community. For the past five years he has devoted his attention to the real-estate business and for three years has been in partnership with Charles P. Riner under the firm style of Loomis & Riner. They do a general real-estate and insurance business and now have a large clientage in this connection. Dr. Loomis has thoroughly informed himself concerning realty values and their appreciation or diminution in prices and is thus enabled to assist his clients in making judicious investments and profitable sales.

On the 4th of February, 1890, Dr. Loomis was united in marriage to Miss S. Isabella Clark, a native of Galva and a daughter of Dr. Chester M. Clark. Dr. Clark, who was born in Vermont, became an early settler of Galva, this county, where he practiced his profession for many years. Subsequently he established a drug store and conducted the same until the time of his retirement from active business life. His demise occurred on the 25th of April, 1909, when he had attained the venerable age of eighty-four years. He was an exemplary Mason and held a number of city offices, the duties of which he discharged in a manner highly satisfactory to his constituents. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Loomis has been born a son, Donald B. C. Loomis.

Dr. Loomis gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served as alderman of the third ward for one term. His fraternal relations are with Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and Kewanee Chapter, R. A. M., while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which his wife is also identified. He is a man of strong character and sterling worth and well merits the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

---

#### E. PERCY DAVIES.

E. Percy Davies is one of the agriculturists and stock raisers of Henry county, who owns an up-to-date farm on section 30, Phenix township. He was born on the same section, though not on the same farm, February 6, 1865, and is the son of James L. and Phila N. (Aldridge) Davies. The father was born March 11, 1825, in Wales, and there grew to manhood. Upon coming to America he went first to Ohio, where for some years he found employment in the coal mines, and then came to Henry county, Illinois, where he met and married Miss Aldridge. She was born on section 30, Phenix township, a daughter of Earl P. and Caroline Oliva (Imel) Aldridge, and is still living, though her husband has been dead a number of years, his death having occurred October 11, 1895. After coming to Phenix township, Mr. Davies became an extensive landholder and was highly

respected when he passed away. Two children were born to him and his wife. Caroline Oliva, the older, married James Good and died January 9, 1891, leaving two children: Mary C., who is the wife of Arthur Johnson and lives in Geneseo; and Fanchon, who married a Mr. Race and lives in Battle Creek, Michigan. E. Percy, the younger of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. James L. Davies, is the subject of this sketch.

E. Percy Davies spent his boyhood's days upon the home farm and in the little district school received such an education as it was able to furnish boys who could attend only a few months in the year. Until he became of age he gave his father the benefit of his labor, but on attaining his majority he embarked on life for himself. He began as a renter on his father's land and then in 1890 he bought the farm on which he now resides. It is one hundred and sixteen acres in extent, and in the years that it has been in his possession Mr. Davies has made a number of important improvements, remodeling the house and the barn, and erecting a new barn, a corn crib and a hog house. He has also bought one-half interest in the home place of one hundred and twenty acres, and as his affairs prospered, he purchased half an interest in two hundred acres in Louisa county, Iowa, which is well improved land. He raises and feeds a great deal of cattle each year, and finds a ready market for his stock in the large cities of this state and elsewhere.

On the farm on which now lives, December 25, 1889, Mr. Davies was married to Miss Mina Kerr, who was born in Hanna township and is a daughter of Thomas Walker and Amanda (Henninger) Kerr. The former was a native of Ohio, the latter of Pennsylvania, but the couple were for a number of years residents of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Davies have been born two children: Harley Hobart, who was brought into the world August 5, 1897, and Gilbert Kerr, whose birthday was January 2, 1900.

In his political views Mr. Davies finds himself in sympathy with the principles of the republican party, but he is not a seeker for public recognition nor has he evinced a great interest in political concerns. He has, however, served as school director and in this capacity has given satisfaction, for he is greatly in favor of increasing the effectiveness of the schools.

---

#### AM. WITHROW.

Am. Withrow, conducting a profitable business as the owner of a hack line in Geneseo, was born in Henry county, Illinois, December 8, 1850, his parents being William and Sarah Caroline (May) Withrow, both of whom were natives of White county, Illinois. The father was born in 1812 and was a farmer by occupation. At the time of the Civil war, however, he put aside business and personal considerations that he might aid the government in the preservation of the Union, enlisting in 1862 as a member of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry. He afterward enlisted for one hundred days' service in the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Infantry and was later transferred to the Sixty-fifth Regiment, receiving three honorable discharges. At the close of the war his was one of the last regi-

ments that was mustered out. He had passed the designated military age when he entered the service but his patriotism prompted his ready response to the country's call. It was in the year 1830 that he and his wife became residents of Henry county, being among its earliest settlers, and for many years they were identified with agricultural interests in this district. Mr. Withrow died while on a visit to Oregon about twenty-five years ago and the mother of our subject passed away in this county twenty-four years ago. They were the parents of five children, of whom four are yet living, namely: Am., of this review; Solon; who is a traveling salesman; Sarah, the wife of Frank Earl, of Los Angeles, California; and Mary, the wife of P. Verage, living at Sawtelle, California. The mother of these children was twice married, her first husband having been Joshua Colbert, by whom she had two children, one of whom is living, Albert A. Colbert, a resident of Galesburg, Illinois.

Am. Withrow was educated in various schools of Henry county and at the age of eighteen years bought his time of his father, after which he worked for a short period at farming. He also engaged in teaming and in handling horses and thirty-five years ago turned his attention to the hack business, running a hack between Geneseo and points on the Rock river, also to the fair grounds and to camp meetings. In this connection he has built up a good business, which makes constant demands upon his time, and his obliging service and reasonable prices have insured the liberal patronage which is accorded him.

On the 12th of September, 1885, Mr. Withrow was united in marriage to Mrs. Margaret Hunter, the widow of Daniel Hunter. She was born in New York, September 20, 1840, and is a daughter of Leander and Rebecca (Kinney) Pickard, both of whom were natives of New York, the former born in 1810 and the latter in 1813. The father chose farming as his life vocation. Coming to Illinois in 1854, he settled in Bureau county and afterward removed to Henry county. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. In his family were twelve children, of whom five are now living: Jane, now the widow of Addison Palmer and a resident of South Dakota; Maria, the wife of James Pierson, a resident of Tiskilwa, Bureau county, Illinois; Mrs. Withrow; Harriet, the wife of Charles D. Mareville, of Atkinson, Illinois; and Annie, the wife of Albert Clifton, of Atkinson. The mother of these children died in March, 1893, while Mr. Pickard survived until February, 1903, and both were laid to rest in Henry county, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Withrow have had no children but Mrs. Withrow by a former marriage became the mother of six. On the 12th of September, 1857, she wedded Daniel O. Hunter, who was born in New York, June 28, 1823, and died December 20, 1878. In early life he followed farming and subsequently he turned his attention to merchandising. He lived for a time in Bureau county and afterward came to Henry county, conducting a general grocery store in Atkinson for twenty years, or up to the time of his death. He, too, was a soldier of the Civil war enlisting in the Ninety-third Illinois Infantry. His political support was given to the republican party and he served as notary public and justice of the peace for years. He was long a member of the Methodist church and was also an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity. At his death in 1878, his remains were interred in the Atkinson (Ill.) cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter

were the parents of six children: Ida, the eldest, born October 7, 1858, in Bureau county, became the wife of William Hickox, of Colorado, and died June 21, 1907, leaving a daughter, Madge, who is the wife of Lavern McCalvey, of Colorado, by whom she has two children, Lavern Hickox and Franklin Robert. Florence Hunter, born in Bureau county, July 31, 1864, is the wife of I. A. Henry a resident of Bloomington, Illinois, and they have three sons: Clell E., who is married and resides in Chicago; Lale, who wedded Lou Buck, now deceased; and Harold Henry. Wilson Henry Hunter, born in Bureau county, June 2, 1866, is a barber residing in South Dakota. He is married and has three children. Harvey, Ira and Gaynal. Louisa A., born in Henry county, May 14, 1868, is the wife of Joseph Hunter of Putnam, Illinois, and they have four children: Oral, Cleo, Ruth and Icile. Leander Hunter, born in Henry county, December 3, 1871, is married and lives in Geneseo. Fay E. Hunter, born in Henry county, May 7, 1876, and married Miss Mattie Harmes and with their two children, Opal and Myrl, resides in Annawan, Illinois.

In the year 1868, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter came to live in Henry county and her parents arrived a year later. Her brother, Wilson Pickard, served as a soldier of the Civil war in the One Hundred and Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Her brother-in-law, Mr. Pierson, was also a soldier of the Union army, while two half-brothers of Mr. Withrow, William and Albert Colbert, were defenders of the Union cause. The G. A. R. Post at Atkinson was named in honor of her first husband, being called the D. O. Hunter Circle. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Withrow is situated on Elk street and has been owned by the latter for twenty-three years. Mr. Withrow owns a part of his father's home place of seven acres and has two houses, each occupying an acre of ground across the road from his present place of residence. The dwelling which Mr. and Mrs. Withrow occupied was destroyed by fire December 3, 1903, but was at once rebuilt. They hold membership in the Methodist church and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Both he and his wife are held in high esteem in the community and have many warm friends throughout the county. He is regarded as a reliable and enterprising man and the success which he has achieved is due entirely to his own labors.

---

### JOHN P. CHAISER.

As one looks back over the history of Bishop Hill during the last half century of its existence, noting the long strides of progress which have marked the life of the village and regarding the high moral tone which distinguishes it from many places of its size, he sees in this record the guiding hands of men who have cheerfully devoted the best of their talents and abilities to its promotion. Conspicuous among these is John P. Chaiser, who has retired from business, but is still actively interested in the welfare of the place and its residents, which has been his home and among whom he has lived since he was seven years of age, for besides being associated with the memories of childhood Bishop Hill has the added significance to him of being the haven toward which



JOHN P. CHAISER AND FAMILY



he and his parents looked with eagerness before they embarked upon their journey to America.

Mr. Chaizer was born in Belinge, Socken, Uppland, Sweden, January 1, 1844. His father, John Chaizer, came to this country in 1850 as a member of the Bishop Hill colony, with which he was associated as mason and cooper. After the dissolution of the colonial government and the establishment of the village, he went to Moline and thence to Cordova, finding in both places employment at his trade. In 1868 he returned to Bishop Hill, purchasing the Swedish printing outfit which had been established by the colony for printing the *Svenska Republicanaren*, probably the first paper in that language published in this country. Learning the printer's trade, Mr. Chaizer engaged in the translation and dissemination of English Adventist literature, giving to that his attention until his death. Having been a man of studious habits, well educated in his native tongue, in four or five years after his arrival here he became proficient not only in reading the English language, but in rendering it into Swedish, for the benefit of his compatriots. In 1860, with a number of others from the colony, he joined the Baptist church, and about 1868 he became a member of the Advent church, devoting himself zealously to promoting that faith, even to the extent of translating and printing its tracts at his own expense. When his death occurred in 1890, he being seventy-six years, three months and twenty-five days of age, he was deeply mourned as one of the most earnest and efficient men of the village, whose influence was far-reaching. His good offices, however, would seem to have been transmitted to his son, who has followed in his footsteps in the performance of good works. His wife, Mrs. Anna Katrina Chaizer, the mother of our subject, was not permitted to witness the development of the colony, for she died shortly after her arrival here, December 15, 1854, when she was only thirty-seven years and twenty days old.

John P. Chaizer of this review was about seven years of age when his parents brought him to this country and was but ten when he was deprived of his mother's love and care. He received his education in the school of the colony and after its dissolution in 1860 went to Moline to learn the cooper's trade, at which he worked in that city, Cordova and Chicago until 1868, when he returned to Bishop Hill, where he pursued the same occupation for one year. Then he became a salesman in the general mercantile store of Swanson & Jacobson, leaving the employ of that firm to take a course in the Great Western Business College at Galesburg. In 1872, having completed his studies, he received the appointment as station agent at Bishop Hill, being the second to occupy the position, which he retained until 1882. In the meantime, however, he had had other business experiences by which he had profited. About 1873 he engaged in the lumber business, which, although started in a very small way, grew to large proportions. In August, 1877, he increased the fields of its operations, adding grain dealings, and he formed a partnership with Fred Weyerhaeuser, now the lumber king, and a Mr. Denkmann, under the firm title of J. P. Chaizer & Company. This enterprise also grew to be one of importance, doing such a large business in corn and oats, that Bishop Hill was for many years a good grain market. In 1883 Mr. Chaizer sold his interests in the concern, and the following year retired from active business.

This abandonment of commercial life, however, was but the beginning of new undertakings and the enlargement of his field of usefulness in the village. Through his good business management and his judicious investments, particularly in lands, he had acquired considerable property, owning several good farms in Henry county as well as in Nebraska, so that he was in comfortable circumstances. Yet he assumed the appraisership for the Svea Mutual Fire & Lightning Insurance Company, of Knox, Henry and Mercer counties, and the agency for the Phenix Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, and he also represented the White Star Line steamer company, thus keeping in touch with the world of affairs, although his main interests were given to matters of larger outlook. Ever a strong and zealous temperance worker, Mr. Chaiser has labored untiringly against the legalized saloon, so that the fact that Bishop Hill has for so many years been without them is due largely to him. In 1874 he voted the prohibition ticket for the first time, ever since that time exerting himself most actively in promoting the success of the party and the promulgation and acceptance of the ideals for which it stands.

On the 5th of February, 1870, Mr. Chaiser was united in marriage to Miss Betsey C. Linbeck, who was born in Ockelbo, Gefleborg, Sweden, May 24, 1848. All her life, however, has practically been spent here, for her parents came to Bishop Hill in 1849, as members of the colony. Three daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Chaiser, namely: Alice E., who is the wife of Fred V. Johnson, of Sayre, Oklahoma; Winnie S., who is the wife of Andrew O. Lindstrum, of Galesburg; and Juna C., who married William B. Hiller, of Oakville, Iowa.

Mr. Chaiser has always been very active in public affairs of the village. For a number of years he was school director; he served as highway commissioner for a short period; was village trustee for many years; and is now filling his third term as police magistrate. Shortly after the organization of the Good Templars here, in 1866, he joined their ranks and became very active in the work of the order during the period of its existence here, having been grand deputy chief templar for a number of years. Also when the Band of Hope was established here, he became the leading spirit of that body. But although there are patent evidences everywhere of Mr. Chaiser's interest in the welfare of the community in which he lives, what the village and its associations have meant to him personally from the time he was a child have found more adequate expression in the songs and poems which he has published from time to time, one of which is quoted below:

#### OLD TOWN CLOCK.

Here is a glimpse of Bishop Hill,  
The old, historic town,  
The buildings are quaint and large,  
Quite noted and renown.

The ancient building that is shown  
Is made of stone and bricks,  
A town clock seen upon its top  
Which always ticks and ticks.

It was made in eighteen fifty-nine,  
And has run for many a day;  
Tick and tock, tick and tock,  
It is always heard to say.

Old and of an ancient style,  
Day and night it measures time,  
And strikes at every hour  
With clear and pleasant chime.

Some future day it sure will stop,  
It's getting old and worn;  
Then we'll be so sad and lonely,  
And many for it will mourn.

---

GUSTAV E. MILLER.

Gustav E. Miller, a farmer, stock raiser, feeder and shipper of Geneseo township, who owns two hundred and thirteen acres on sections 18 and 19, about a mile west of the city of Geneseo, was born on a farm near Schwetz, West Prussia, April 15, 1848. His parents were David and Carolina (Sichmansky) Miller, the former also a native of Schwetz, of whose large family six are located in the United States. Herrmann, the youngest, also came to this country, but after remaining about two years returned to Germany and is now living on the old home place. David Miller died in 1893 in his native land. His wife had passed away many years before while her son Gustav E. Miller was still in the army.

Gustav E. Miller, the oldest of the family, was reared upon the home farm and received a good education in the public schools of his native land. In 1869, when he was about twenty years of age, he was called into the German army and during the three years of his service took part in many of the important battles of the Franco-Prussian war, among them being Gravelot, the siege of Metz and the siege of Paris. He was also at Dijon when Garibaldi was in command of the opposing forces, and where his regiment—the Sixty-first—lost its flag, although, through the bravery of one of its members, it was later recovered. In the fall of 1872 Mr. Miller was honorably discharged from the army and the following spring came to America. He embarked on a steamer, which took two weeks to make the voyage, and on landing at New York came almost immediately to Henry county, Illinois, where he had two uncles. He had brought a little money with him, but, thinking it wiser to save this for emergencies, he went to work by the month. After a short time he was able to purchase forty acres of land in Edford township. This he cleared of the brush and timber that covered it and on it built a house and barn. For about fifteen years it remained his home, although in that time the original acreage had been doubled. He had paid about forty dollars an acre for the land and toward the end of the '80s he sold it at some profit and bought one hundred and sixty acres, the farm on which his son Albert now lives.

He paid about sixty-five dollars for that land and made it his home for about seven years, when he bought the three hundred and twenty acres on sections 34 and 35, Geneseo township, on which his son Otto lives. In 1906 he bought the place where he lives today. It is almost unnecessary to add that he has been successful, for the fundamental lessons in farming he learned in his native land he has applied with excellent results in this country.

In Edford township, February 20, 1876, Mr. Miller married Miss Paulina Pobanz, who was born in Bagnevo, West Prussia, Germany, March 22, 1857, and is a daughter of George and Henrietta (Dettmann) Pobanz. She was about five years old when her parents came to this country. They were eleven weeks on the water and landed in New York, coming almost immediately to Henry county. In Edford Township they purchased a home, as they had brought some means with them. On that farm Mrs. Miller grew up, receiving her education in the common schools. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born nine children: Albert E., of whom mention is made in another part of this volume; Emily, who lives at home, Otto H., whose sketch appears elsewhere; Mary, who married Rev. Christ D. Reichle, of Missouri, and is the mother of a son, Richard; Gustav L., born May 30, 1884; Mathilda, a stenographer in Chicago; Ernst, born June 6, 1889, who lives at home; George, born June 19, 1891; and Grace, who died at the age of nine. The oldest daughter, Emily, is a graduate of a music school in Chicago, and Mary was graduated from the Geneseo high school, while Ernst and George are students in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Mr. Miller's son, Gustav, is a born musician and, though he has never had any instruction in the art, he is not only a teacher but a composer as well. He also organized an orchestra of boys, which in the winter of 1908-9, accompanied by a pianist, traveled in Illinois and Missouri, with pronounced financial success.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller and their children belong to the German Evangelical Lutheran church, of which Mr. Miller served three terms as trustee. Although he is not a charter member of the congregation he enjoys the distinction of having hauled the first load of bricks for the erection of the edifice. In his political views Mr. Miller is a republican, and for several years rendered efficient service as school director, collector and road overseer in Edford township. In 1909, accompanied by his wife, he returned to Germany for a three months' visit, with the result that he was well satisfied with his home in the United States, where the years of his active life have been spent and where he has made staunch and loyal friends among those who have watched his progress.

---

#### ALBERT E. MILLER.

Albert E. Miller, one of the native farmers and stockmen of Edford township, was born December 20, 1876, and is a son of Gustav and Paulina (Pobanz) Miller. He was reared on the old homestead and having attended the district school received a good education in the rudimentary branches of English instruction. He also learned the trade of a carpenter during his youth but until he became of age he worked for his father, receiving nothing in return for his labor. On

attaining his majority he was permitted to keep his wages and found ready demand for his services in the county and in the city of Geneseo, and was soon able to undertake contracts for carpenter work. Until 1905, when he married, he devoted himself to his trade and then turned his attention to agriculture on the farm on section 34, Edford township, where he lives today. He purchased this from his father in 1902, paying one hundred dollars per acre for it. Since that time he has remodeled the buildings and has made many other improvements so that its value has risen to about one hundred and sixty dollars per acre. He follows general farming and stock raising. With persistence he has made the farm more than pay for itself and return him a large interest upon his investment.

In Watertown, Rock Island county, Illinois, May 3, 1905, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Miller and Miss Anna Schultze, of Barstow, that county, where she was born and reared. Her father, Frank Schultze, was a native of Rock Island county, April 9, 1860, having been the date of his birth, while his wife, who was Miss Bertha Lavien in her maidenhood, was born in West Prussia, Germany, and came to America with her parents. Three children were born to them, of whom Mrs. Miller is the eldest; Frank lives with his father and mother in Rock Island county; and Amelia married August Vallrath and also lives in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one child, Alvera, who was born on the home farm, April 5, 1906. While not a seeker for public preferment, at the election in 1909 Mr. Miller was the choice of the republican voters for township collector. The success which has attended his agricultural endeavors and the high principles which have marked his intercourse with his fellowmen recommended him to the citizens as a man upon whose integrity they might rely. In religious matters he is a stanch Lutheran and with his wife attends the German Evangelical church in Edford township.

---

#### OTTO HERMAN MILLER.

Otto Herman Miller, a member of the agricultural community of Edford township, where, on sections 34 and 35, he owns a farm of two hundred and forty acres, is a native of that township, and was born February 17, 1880. His parents are Gustav E. and Lena Paulina (Pobanz) Miller, of whom extended mention is made in a preceding sketch. His boyhood days were spent upon his father's farm in the township of his birth, and he attended the common schools of that district, becoming proficient in the English branches taught and also in the speaking and writing of German. Until he became twenty-one he gave his father the benefit of his labor, and then, upon attaining his majority, was paid wages for the five additional years he remained with him. In 1906 Mr. Miller married and began life for himself, renting of his father the farm on which he now lives and which he bought in 1909 for one hundred and forty dollars an acre. Here, in addition to general agriculture, he has engaged largely in the raising and feeding of stock, which he ships in quantity to market. Still a young man, he has many years in which to prove his skill as a tiller of the soil, and there is every reason to anticipate that his success will equal that of his father.

In Edford township, March 18, 1906, Mr. Miller wedded Miss Mary Erdman. She was born in that part of the county, June 27, 1884, and is a daughter of John and Anna (Hintz) Erdman, who are residents of Edford township. She received a good education in the common schools and also obtained a knowledge of German which enables her to read and write the language. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have no child living, Irene Pearl, born March 19, 1907, died ten days after birth.

Mr. Miller is in sympathy with the platform of the republican party, but while he never misses an opportunity to exercise his right of franchise, he has not sought for any public office within the gift of his fellow citizens. In his religious faith he is a Lutheran, and with his wife attends the services of the German Evangelical church.

---

### ORSON DUNBAR.

Orson Dunbar, a well known, enterprising and progressive agriculturist of Wethersfield township, was born in La Fayette, Stark county, Illinois, on the 27th of November, 1851. The birth of his father, Washington Dunbar, occurred in Breckinridge county, Kentucky, on the 21st of September, 1822. The latter's education was limited to only three days' schooling but he was apt at figures and could calculate the price of a load of hogs mentally more quickly than another man could figure it out with pencil and paper. He was but a boy when he came to Illinois with his parents, who soon afterward established their home in Wethersfield township, Henry county. He immediately went to work as a farm hand for neighboring agriculturists, being thus employed for some years, and was still a lad when he bought a yoke of young steers and broke them. Logging and all kinds of team work likewise claimed his attention, and he came into possession of land by a method that was quite common at that day, being given a tract of forty acres as a remuneration for breaking twenty acres of prairie land within a certain length of time. He built the first hewn log house in La Fayette, and entered eighty acres of land on the northwest corner of section 31, Wethersfield township. He set out trees, built fences, erected buildings and prospered wonderfully in his farming operations, adding to his holdings by additional purchase from time to time until he owned three hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land. About 1900, having accumulated a handsome competence, he put aside the active work of the fields but still continued to reside on his farm and there passed away on the 28th of October, 1907. Prior to his death he had divided his property, eighty acres falling to the share of our subject. His political allegiance was given to the republican party but he never sought the honors and emoluments of office and in fact cared little for the glamour of publicity. In his later years he was a faithful attendant at the services of the Universalist church. His labors contributed in substantial measure to the early development and upbuilding of this section of the state, and when he was called to his final rest the community mourned the loss of one of its most respected and worthy residents. In early manhood Washington Dunbar wedded Miss Annar Lee, who as a child accompanied her parents on their removal from Ohio to Illinois, the

family taking up their abode among the pioneer settlers of Stark county. The demise of Mrs. Dunbar occurred on the 1st of April, 1897, when she was seventy-three years of age.

Orson Dunbar, who obtained his education in the district schools of Wethersfield township, yet resides on the old home farm where he was reared, still occupying the same house. He was early trained to the work of the fields and now devotes his time and energies to the operation of a tract of eighty acres, from which he annually gathers golden harvests as a reward for his care and labor. Since the death of his father he has erected a new barn and numerous other buildings, has rebuilt and overhauled all the fences and also set out several trees. He has a fine bearing orchard including apple, peach, plum, pear and cherry trees. In addition to his agricultural interests he makes a specialty of breeding common horses, raising ten colts in 1909. He likewise devotes considerable attention to the raising of steers and hogs and in all of his undertakings has won a gratifying measure of success. His holdings include one hundred and eighty acres of pasture land in Knox county, and he has long been numbered among the prosperous and representative citizens of his community.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Dunbar supports the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot, always voting for the men and measures that he believes will best conserve the general welfare. He is widely and favorably known throughout this section and has won the warm esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact.

---

### WILLIAM ORIA COSNER.

William Oria Cosner, who devotes his time and energies to that branch of activity which George Washington designated as "the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man," is the owner of a highly improved and productive farm of one hundred and six acres on sections 10 and 11, Burns township. His birth occurred in Burns township on the 13th of November, 1866, his parents being William H. and Adelaide A. (Wedge) Cosner. A sketch of the father appears on another page of this work.

William O. Cosner was educated in the district schools of his native township and remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, giving his father the benefit of his services in the work of the home farm. He was then married and for three years afterward gave his attention to the operation of a rented farm of two hundred acres on section 14, Burns township, the property belonging to L. E. Wilhelm. Subsequently he took up his abode on the farm of one hundred and six acres in Burns township which has remained his place of residence to the present time, cultivating the land as a renter for about three years, on the expiration of which period he purchased the property. He has remodeled the house, built a new barn and various other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, has put up new fences and a windmill and has also tiled his land, so that the place is now lacking in none of the improvements and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. It is all under cultivation with the

exception of a tract of twenty-seven acres of timber and pasture land. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Cosner likewise makes a specialty of Hereford cattle and Jersey Red hogs and also raises quite a number of colts. He is a stockholder in the Henry County Telephone Company and is well entitled to recognition among the enterprising and prosperous citizens of his native county.

On the 20th of November, 1889, in Kewanee township, Mr. Cosner was united in marriage to Miss Emily I. Scott, a daughter of William and Ann (Peart) Scott, who were natives of England. They came to this county from Canada, locating in Kewanee township, where William Scott began working in the coal mines. He there passed away in January, 1877. His widow still survives and makes her home in Kewanee. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cosner have been born seven children, namely: Lester Ord, a young man of nineteen, who assists his father in the work of the home farm; Elsie B., who is seventeen years of age; Clarence P., who is a youth of fifteen and attends the district schools; Bessie C. L., a little maiden of seven, who is likewise attending school; William Carroll and Marjorie O., who are five and two years of age respectively; and Gladys Adelaide, who is in her first year.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Cosner has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democracy but aside from this has taken no active part in politics. He is a warm friend of the cause of education and has served as a school director for nine years. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America at Kewanee, Illinois. He and his family are valued members of the Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal church near Cosner's Corners, doing everything in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He has an extensive circle of friends in the county, where he has always resided, for his life has ever been upright and honorable and the motives which have guided his actions have been such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

---

### HUGH G. CARSON.

No history of Kewanee and Henry county would be complete without extended mention of Hugh G. Carson, who enjoyed the distinction of being the oldest resident of his community, having resided here for a longer period than any other man. He was called to his final rest on the 24th of April, 1908, at the venerable age of eighty-five years, and for seventy-two years of that time maintained his residence in this county. His birth occurred in Salt township, Wayne county, Ohio, on the 22d of May, 1823, and he was therefore a lad of thirteen when the family home was established in Henry county in 1836. The father was an agriculturist by occupation and trained his sons to the work of the farm. On coming to this county he settled on a quarter section of land about three and a half miles from the present site of Kewanee, and upon this farm both he and his wife passed away, his demise occurring in 1841. Following his father's death Hugh G. Carson became the mainstay of the family and, though this was quite a responsibility for so young a man, he acquitted himself creditably. In 1846

he purchased the interests of his brothers and sisters in the old homestead and started out in life on his own account. General agricultural pursuits claimed his attention until 1861, when he put aside the active work of the fields and took up his abode in Kewanee; but four years later he returned to the farm, making his home thereon until 1881. Having won a handsome competence, he once more came to Kewanee and here spent the remainder of his life, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil.

On the 14th of December, 1843, in Burns township, Mr. Carson was united in marriage to Miss Emily Ann Doty, who has passed away. The record of their children is as follows: Mary E.; John H., who is a resident of Nebraska; Mrs Sarah S. Orr; Florence, who is deceased; Rosa V., who is the wife of O. W. Smith, of Valparaiso, Indiana; Franklin R., living in South Bend, Indiana; and Ida N., the wife of J. H. Wilsey.

Mr. Carson voted the democratic ticket until 1856 but in that year assisted in the organization of a Fremont club and ever afterward was a staunch supporter of republican men and measures. His life was in harmony with his professions as a member of the Congregational church, and as a Freemason and he enjoyed the unqualified respect and esteem of all who knew him. His mind was a storehouse of interesting facts concerning the early history of this section of the state, and he told many tales of the hardships and dangers which beset the sturdy pioneer in his efforts to reclaim the district for the purposes of civilization. During the '40s, while riding home from Geneseo one evening by moonlight, he was pursued for miles by a pack of wolves and his frightened horse barely succeeded in escaping them. At that time houses were few and far between, but during the spring and summer of 1855 people began flocking to Kewanee from all quarters and small frame structures sprang up on every side. Not only did he witness the transformation of this section from a wild country, with only a few white inhabitants, to a rich agricultural country, containing thousands of good homes and acres of growing towns, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he participated in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical. The period of his residence in Henry county covered more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, and his name is inseparably interwoven with its history.

---

#### FRED DACK HAYES.

Fred Dack Hayes, of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company, at Galva, was born near Kewanee, Illinois, and has spent his entire life in Henry county. He is a son of Eugenie and Matilda J. (Dack) Hayes, of whom extended reference is made on another page of this volume. His father was one of the most prominent business men that has figured in industrial and commercial circles in Henry county. His early life was devoted to agricultural pursuits and later he began the manufacture of agricultural implements and other mechanical devices which he himself had invented.

The subject of this review was educated in the Galva public schools, graduating therefrom in 1897. He attended the Art Institute in Chicago one year, after which he represented the Hayes Pump & Planter Company as traveling salesman. Since 1906, he has had charge of the publicity department of his firm.

Mr. Hayes is an Episcopalian in his religious belief, being a member of the church of the Holy Communion in Galva. He belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and his political endorsement is given to the republican party.

---

### VICTOR J. OLSON.

Victor J. Olson, the manager of the Galva Grain Elevator Company, one of the most important business enterprises of the community, was born at Bishop Hill on the 10th of June, 1879, and is therefore numbered among the younger business men of Nekoma. He is a son of S. P. and Catherine (Nordine) Olson, and on the maternal side is a direct descendant of the Bishop Hill colonists, both grandparents having come from Sweden as members of the original colony. The maternal grandfather, Lars Nordine, died while serving as a soldier in the Civil war. Their daughter, the mother of our subject, was born in the Bishop Hill colony. The father, a native of Sweden, came to America in 1865, locating at Bishop Hill, where he has engaged in the occupation of farming ever since, being the owner of a farm of eighty acres located in Galva township.

In the Hickory Grove school of Galva township, Victor J. Olson acquired his education, and during the periods of vacation assisted his father in the work of the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until 1904, in which year he entered the employ of Regnold Johnson, a lumber merchant of Bishop Hill, with whom he remained for two years. On March 9, 1907, he accepted his present position as manager of the Galva Grain Elevator Company at Nekoma. The company owns an elevator with a capacity of thirty thousand bushels, and they handle about three hundred and fifty thousand bushels of grain per year, dealing principally in corn and oats. It is a cooperative organization, consisting of farmers, and is capitalized for fifteen thousand dollars. They purchase grain throughout the country for a radius of about seven miles and ship chiefly to the Chicago market, this being the only grain center in the township. The business has already reached extensive proportions and is continually growing in proportion.

On the 18th of January, 1905, Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Miss Cassie Smith, a daughter of Mrs. M. E. Smith, of Bishop Hill, and unto this union has been born one son, Stewart Clifton. The family residence is in Nekoma, where Mr. and Mrs. Olson are prominent in a large circle of friends, who entertain for them high regard and esteem. Fraternally he is a Mason and also holds membership with the Modern Woodmen of America, while in politics he gives stalwart support to the democracy, although the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. Mr. Olson is yet a young man but has already attained a gratifying measure of success which augurs well

for a bright future, while his many good qualities, his social manner, his genial disposition and his cordiality have made him popular with those with whom he has been brought in contact.

---

### FREDERICK HERB.

Frederick Herb, who owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres on sections 17 and 18, Burns township, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 8th of July, 1848, his parents being John C. and Elizabeth C. Herb, who spent their entire lives in the fatherland. John C. Herb followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and passed away on the 6th of October, 1863, when forty-six years of age. His wife was called to her final rest in the fall of 1868, when she had attained the age of fifty-three years. They were the parents of five children, only two of whom came to the United States, namely: Frederick, of this review, and Rosina, the wife of Chris Miller, who was a native of Germany and there passed away.

Frederick Herb obtained his education in the public schools of his native land and after putting aside his text-books learned the plasterer's trade, which he followed until 1868. On the 13th of June of that year, when a young man of twenty, he set sail for the new world and after landing on American shores made his way direct to Sturgis, Michigan, where he was engaged in farming for about two years. The construction of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad was begun in 1870, and he immediately secured employment with that corporation, working in all parts of the state until the road was completed. Subsequently he worked on the Michigan Air Line from Jackson to Niles, Michigan, until February, 1871, and then went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he labored in a vineyard until fall. Making his way to Canton, Ohio, he there worked as a digger of ditches until April, when he removed to Cincinnati and secured employment at his trade of plasterer. He afterward worked at his trade in Middle Point, Van Wert county, Ohio, next went to St. Louis and then to Iron Mountain, Missouri, there also being engaged as a plasterer. He returned to St. Louis for the fair of 1872 and subsequently went to Louisiana, being there employed as a sugar maker. Once more going back to St. Louis, he worked at his trade in that city for a time and then became identified with farming interests, harvesting in Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota. Subsequently he worked for a short time as a farm hand in Cambridge, Henry county, Illinois, and afterward was employed in a similar capacity by Jacob Cosner, of Kewanee. He was also employed by George Day, of Wethersfield township, and Jacob Sauceman, of Burns township, and picked corn for Oscar Fisher, of Burns township. When a young man of about twenty-nine years, he was married and took up his abode on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased, on sections 17 and 18, Burns township. He remodeled the house, erected a new barn, sheds and other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, put up fences and also tiled the land. At the end of five years, he leased

the place and removed to Beadle county, South Dakota, which at that time was still a territory, taking up four hundred and eighty acres of government land. He made his home in South Dakota for eleven years, on the expiration of which period he returned to his farm in Henry county and has lived thereon continuously to the present time. The place is devoted to general agricultural pursuits and in addition to the cultivation of the fields, which have been brought to a high state of fertility, he also makes a specialty of Hereford cattle, Poland China hogs and colts. He still retains possession of his farm of four hundred and eighty acres in South Dakota and leases the property.

On the 3d of May, 1877, in Burns township, Mr. Herb was united in marriage to Amelia Gobst, her father being Jacob Liebsch, a native of Saxony, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Herb have two children, a daughter and son. Josephine is the wife of James Schreck, who follows farming in Iowa. Frank T., whose birth occurred in South Dakota on the 8th of July, 1884, now operates the home farm. On the 10th of February, 1903, in Geneseo, he wedded Miss May Atwell, a daughter of George Atwell, of Cornwall township. They now have a son, Cecil, four years of age.

Mr. Herb gives his political allegiance to the republican party and takes an active and helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare. While living in South Dakota, he held the offices of township collector, school treasurer and school director. He is a devoted and consistent member of the Christian Science church. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for in this country he has found the opportunities which he sought and through their utilization, has worked his way upward, becoming one of the successful representative agriculturists of the community, his life indicating what may be accomplished by perseverance and well directed energy.

---

### EDWARD WASHBURN.

Among the many progressive farmers of Colona township, whose work has contributed no mean share to the fair name enjoyed by this locality as an agricultural center must be included Edward Washburn, who operates a fine farm of eighty acres. A native of this county, he was born in Western township, January 24, 1867, and is a son of Chauncey and Emily (Piatt) Washburn, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of George Washburn, a brother of our subject, in another part of this volume.

Edward Washburn spent his childhood and youth upon the home farm, obtaining the fundamental lessons for life under the guidance of his parents and in the district schools of his native township. When he had completed the course of instruction offered by those institutions he attended for a time the normal school at Geneseo. He did not relinquish his agricultural interests, however, but worked with his father until he married and had the natura' desire to establish a home of his own. In the spring of 1896 he took up his residence upon the place in Colona township which has since been the scene of his labors. Forty acres was the home of the Piatt family when Chauncey Washburn and Miss Emily

Piatt, the parents of our subject, were married, and as it came into the possession of Mr. Washburn shortly before his own marriage it still belongs to a descendant of the Piatt family. The tract Mr. Washburn now operates, however, embraces eighty acres and is one of the fertile farms of Colona township. As it is cultivated by careful and progressive methods, by a man who has an understanding of the science underlying the best agriculture, it yields harvests that compare favorably with those reaped from fields which are known widely as rendering the largest returns for the investment of thought and toil.

On the 25th of December, 1895, Mr. Washburn wedded Miss Mary A. Greer, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bell) Greer, of Coal Valley, Rock Island county, Illinois. The Greers came originally from Ireland, while the Bells came from England, and both settled in Rock Island county among the early pioneers of this state. Mr. Greer was for many years a successful coal operator, but later in life gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, in which he found a success that justified his retiring from active life. He and his wife are still living in Rock Island county. It was there that Mr. Washburn met their daughter, she being at that time a popular and progressive teacher.

Like all the Washburn family, Edward Washburn is a democrat, but he takes little part in political matters, though he is a student of issues and conditions and is always an intelligent voter, being well informed upon all matters of loyal or national importance. His administration as road commissioner and school director has been marked by zealous exertions in behalf of public welfare. For the past twenty-one years he has been a member of Riverside Lodge, No. 684, I. O. O. F., has been prominent in its affairs, holding the greater number of the chairs of the organizations, finishing with the rank of past grand. He is also a member of Clement Lodge, No. 680, A. F. & A. M., at Colona, of which he is junior warden, and he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star.

In the belief that judicious public improvements are a mark of a progressing community, Mr. Washburn never fails in his support of such and exerts an influence in advancing the efficiency of the local schools. The pleasures of hunting and fishing still occasionally allure him and in these sports he finds his greatest diversion and relaxation from the daily cares of the farm.

---

### JOHN W. LOUGHIN.

John W. Loughin well deserves distinction among those citizens of Geneseo township who, entirely through their own industry and well directed efforts, have worked their way upward from a humble beginning to a creditable place among the substantial and representative citizens of the township. A native of Pennsylvania, his birth occurred on the corner of Third and Dock streets, Philadelphia, April 1, 1845, his parents being John and Ann( Woodworth) Loughin. When he was but four years of age, he accompanied his mother and father on their removal to Montgomery, Pennsylvania, where the former was engaged in business for a few years. In that town Mr. Loughin was reared to manhood. When only eight years old he lost his father and as he was

the eldest in a family of four children, it was necessary for him to go to work at a very early age in order to provide for his own livelihood and also to aid in the support of the other members of the family. He remained at home, caring for his widowed mother, until twenty-five years of age, when he went to Port Kennedy, where he became identified with the coal business. He had been thus engaged for about five years and was meeting with creditable success when the panic of 1873 broke out and he was among those who were forced to succumb. Two years later, in 1875, he came west to Henry county and here accepted employment as a farmhand, working by the month up to the time of his marriage, which occurred on the 23d of September, 1885, in Osco township, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary J. Poppleton. Mrs. Loughin was born in Geneseo on the 30th of November, 1856, and is a daughter of George and Esther (Hall) Poppleton, natives of Lincolnshire, England, and County Fermanagh, Ireland, respectively. The father, who arrived in America in 1851, remained in New York state about three years and then came to Illinois, taking up his abode in Geneseo. The mother came to this country when sixteen years of age, and it was during her residence in Geneseo that she made the acquaintance of Mr. Poppleton. After their marriage he followed the occupation of carpenter and joiner for several years and then in 1858 removed to Osco township, where he purchased a farm and reared his family, which consisted of six children, of whom Mrs. Loughin is the eldest.

Mr. Loughin and his wife began their domestic life upon a farm belonging to his father-in-law, which he continued to operate in the capacity of renter for about six years, and then he purchased fifty acres of land in Cambridge township. The period of his residence thereupon covered seven years, at the expiration of which time he sold out and invested in ninety acres in Munson township. In 1904 he purchased his present farm, consisting of one hundred and thirty-eight acres located on sections 8 and 9, Geneseo township, at a price of sixty-five dollars per acre. Under his wise and careful management the fields have been brought under a high state of cultivation, and everything about the place indicates that he has kept in touch with modern and up-to-date methods of agriculture.

As the years have come and gone the home of Mr. and Mrs. Loughin has been blessed with five children. Esther Ann, the eldest, graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1905, after which she taught for a few years. She is now the wife of Herman F. Lohman and makes her home in Geneseo, where her husband is engaged as an engineer. John Sherman, who also attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, is now engaged in agricultural pursuits. Alexander B. has completed his freshman year in high school and is now a member of the sophomore class. Lenora Elizabeth resides at home and is also a student in the high school, being now in her junior year, while Myra Dorothy, the youngest, is at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Loughin are members of the Trinity Episcopal church, of which Mr. Loughin is serving as senior warden. Politically he is a republican, having been a staunch supporter of that party since casting his first presidential vote. Although he has never sought nor desired public office, yet he has served as road commissioner and as school director and has always been a

stanch advocate of all measures pertaining to the material, political, intellectual and moral growth and advancement of the community. Although his arrival in this township was comparatively recent, nevertheless he has already won an extensive circle of friends who honor and respect him for the excellent traits of character which are his.

---

### JOHN DURMANN.

One of the successful farmers of Colona township, is John Durmann, who was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, July 6, 1854, and is a son of Joseph and Amanda (Killing) Durmann. The former was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 15, 1813, his father being Mike Durmann, a farmer in his native land, who died when his son was seventeen years old. In 1839 Joseph Durmann came to America to better his condition. After living for a time in Ohio, he removed to Illinois, locating in the city of Rock Island, where he followed his trade as a cooper for a number of years. Having saved money during that time, in 1867 he was able to purchase three hundred and twenty acres of land in Colona township, upon which he took up his residence. As he prospered, he was able to add to his landholdings until he owned five hundred and forty acres, so that he became one of the prominent and substantial men of his locality. Although so much of his time was given to the prosecution of his vocation he found time to devote to the cause of the public and was identified with its best interests, serving most efficiently for a number of years as a member of the school board. One of the pleasant memories of his life, however, was the trip he took in 1873 to his native land, when he was given a chain by his brother which had been in the possession of the family for three hundred and fifty years and is still one of the cherished heirlooms.

While living in Rock Island, Joseph Durmann was married, April 21, 1845, to Miss Amanda Killing. The five children born to their union are still living: Frank, John, Joseph, William and Mary. The youngest is now the widow of Patrick McKee. Mr. Durmann died in February, 1896, and his widow survived him but a little more than two years, her death occurring July 26, 1898.

John Durmann grew to manhood upon the paternal farm and acquired his early education in the district schools of the township. Later he was enrolled as a pupil in a private school at Orion and then spent one winter in study at Davenport. His education completed, he devoted himself assiduously to the cultivation of the soil, although he did not engage in farming for himself until 1883, when he married and bought the place on which he lives and works today. It is a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which is well improved and under a high state of cultivation, being devoted to general farming. While he has won from it a most gratifying income and an unequivocal success, he has achieved equal distinction from his operations in the stock business. As progress has been his guiding star and industry his rule in life, the good fortune which places Mr. Durmann in the front rank of the farmers of his locality comes

not as something unexpected but as an assured thing in the natural course of events.

On the 29th of January, 1883, Mr. Durmann was married to Miss Margaret E. Purse, a daughter of Robert J. and Margaret (Montgomery) Purse. The parents were born natives of Ireland, the father of County Antrim, the mother of County Down, and they came to America in 1849 on the same steamer. Mrs. Purse is a direct descendant of the Riddle family, which can trace its ancestry back to 860 and played no small part in the history of the Emerald isle. Mr. Purse worked in the city of New York for about five years after having crossed the Atlantic, was married July 9, 1854, and in the spring of the next year came to Henry county, Illinois, locating in Western township. In 1898 he went to Moline, where he lived until 1902, when he went to Oklahoma, returning after three years to Moline, where he has since resided. Eleven children, seven daughters and four sons were born to him and his wife, namely: Margaret E., now Mrs. John Durmann; James, a Baptist minister in Oklahoma; Susan, who is deceased; William, of Moline; Elizabeth, the wife of Elvin E. Bell, of Moline; Robert of Moline; Mattie, now Mrs. Chas. Rost; Georgiana, who is the wife of John J. Bell, of Moline; Abigail, who married D. C. Keleher, of Western township; Emma E., the wife of O. L. Benway, of Louisiana; and Edward, deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Purse are members of the Baptist church, while in his political views, Mr. Purse is a republican, having cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. Durmann are the parents of three children: Mary Eva, Sarah May and James. They were educated in the public schools of the township and later in the schools of Orion and Moline, Sarah May graduating with the class of 1903. After the completion of her own education she taught for a few years and then married John H. Sheesley, of Western township. The son, James, has remained at home.

Mr. Durmann is a republican and is deeply interested in public affairs, having been a member of the local school board for a number of years. With the rest of his family he belongs to the Baptist church at Orion, has been deacon and trustee of the congregation for a considerable period and is closely identified with church and Sunday-school work. Appreciative of the fact that upon progress depends the advance of a community, his voice and influence are ever raised in its behalf and his advocacy of public improvements is always guided by a desire to see his fellow citizens keep abreast of the advance of civilization in other parts of the state and country.

---

#### OSCAR GAESSNER.

Oscar Gaessner, one of the prominent farmers and stockmen of Osco township, was born in the village of Wechselburg, Saxony, Germany, April 8, 1840, and is a son of Fred and Wilhelmina (Vieweg) Gaessner. He received a good education by private instruction, obtaining a knowledge of the Latin and French languages in addition to the branches usually taught. Reared with the idea that



OSCAR GAESSNER AND FAMILY



he was to be a gardener, he followed that occupation for some years, until his marriage, in fact, which occurred in 1875, when he decided to come to the United States to try his fortunes. The ship on which he embarked took nineteen days to cross the ocean, being delayed by lack of coal, and after landing in New York Mr. Gaessner came immediately to Henry county, Illinois. Here a brother had located about five years before and had purchased for him a farm of one hundred and eighty acres. Mr. Gaessner had sent the money for this from his native land, paying for it at the rate of fifty dollars an acre. Were it placed upon the real-estate market today it would easily command three times that sum, for many improvements have since been made, including the erection of a good house and the tiling of the land. The place is located on the northeast quarter of section 8, Osco township, and is devoted to general farming and stock raising.

In Freiburg, Saxony, February 9, 1875, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Gaessner and Miss Bertha Ebigt, who was born in that city May 30, 1841, and is a daughter of Edward and Wilhelmina (Schmidt) Ebigt. In her native land she received a good education in the common branches and also in domestic economy, for which the households of the old country are famous. She came with her husband to America a few weeks after their marriage and here they have reared their family of three children: Olga, who was born February 28, 1876, and died upon her sixth birthday; Almz Wilhelmina, born March 4, 1881, who has received a good education and lives with her parents; and Charles Frederick Edward, born May 24, 1882, who has likewise received an education that well fits him for the duties of life. The children and their parents are members of the English Evangelical church at Morristown. Politically Mr. Gaessner looks to the democratic party for guidance, having affiliated with it since he first became a citizen of this republic, but has never sought office.

---

#### CHARLES CHENEY BLISH.

The activities of Charles Cheney Blish were of a varied character but in every field of endeavor in which he labored he was the same honorable and honored gentleman whose business probity was proverbial while his enterprise and intelligently directed labor won him substantial success. No history of Henry county would be complete without the record of his life which had its beginning at East Glastonbury, Connecticut, May 26, 1820, his parents being Colonel Sylvester and Rhoda (Cheney) Blish. He began his education in the schools of his native village and afterward completed a course in Middletown, connecticut, paying especial attention to surveying. He was a youth of seven-teen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois as one of the colony that founded Wethersfield, Illinois, and was active in the pioneer development of this part of the state. On the 23d of December, 1840, at Goshen, Stark county, Illinois, when twenty years of age, he wedded Elizabeth Potter Bonar, a daughter of Matthew and Catharine (Cosner) Bonar, who lived at Walnut Creek, south of Lafayette. The marriage was opposed by the parents on both sides on account of the youth of the contracting parties, but

they went to a justice, were married and the families acquiesced in the inevitable. It was the beginning of what proved to be a long and happy married life. The Bonar family had settled at Walnut Creek in Knox county, Illinois, in 1838, and Mrs. Blish taught school there for two years. After their marriage, the young couple established their home in Wethersfield and always resided in that vicinity save for two years spent in Knoxville. In the winter of 1841-2, Mr. Blish engaged in teaching in Wethersfield with marked success and the following spring was appointed deputy surveyor. In 1843 he was elected county surveyor, which position he filled for eight years, during which time the settlement of the country demanded his constant services in locating lands. Because of the knowledge which he thus gained he was frequently called upon to settle disputed boundary lines in later years. On his retirement from office he turned his attention to farming and was connected with agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days. He made cattle a special feature of his place and about 1865 started a herd of shorthorns which in a few years had become one of the finest herds in the country. He won many prizes in Illinois and Iowa state fairs and at the fat stock shows in Chicago and was a member of the National Shorthorn Breeders' Association. His labors were an important element in improving the grade of cattle raised in the state, and his work in this connection merits the thanks and praise of the agricultural community. He also figured prominently in business circles in connection with the organization of the First National Bank, of which he remained president for eighteen years, retiring only a short time before his death. His wise counsel and discriminating judgment were important elements in the successful conduct of that institution, and he installed there a business system as honorable as that which characterized his work in other relations of life. He was called to several local offices, acting as town clerk for several years after the adoption of the township organization and as school director for a quarter of a century. He was one of the organizers of the Henry County Fair Association, for several years acted as its secretary and afterward as its president.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blish were born six children: James Knox, who is represented elsewhere in this volume; William Henry, who was born August 15, 1844, and died in Knoxville, Illinois, January 15, 1846; Sylvester, who was born October 13, 1846, and died September 21, 1847, in Knoxville; Matthew Bonar, born at Wethersfield, December 5, 1848; Carrie Elizabeth, who was born October 8, 1854, and died in March, 1856; and Kittie Louise, who was born August 14, 1857, and died January 24, 1859.

The death of Mr. Blish occurred very suddenly December 15, 1890. He and his wife were planning to celebrate their golden wedding on the 23d of that month and on the day of his death he was about town and had mailed the invitations. In the night he became suddenly ill and expired almost immediately. His funeral services were conducted by the Masonic lodge of Kewanee, of which he was a charter member, the funeral sermon being preached by the pastor of the Congregational church, of which he had long been a faithful and loyal representative. One of the local papers said of him:

"Mr. Blish has always been one of the foremost men of Kewanee in any and all public enterprises for the advancement of the town. In matters of impor-

tance and in a social way, Mr. Blish stood very high, and his influence was as strong as any citizen in this community. As a business man he was successful, and as a citizen he was the friend of all, and we know of no one who will be missed more from the every-day life of our town than Charles C. Blish."

In the Blish genealogy, which has been published in book form appears the following: "After her husband's death Mrs. Blish never left the old home, but kept a horse which she drove to town and to church, unaided, even to the last Sabbath before her death. She died May 13, 1900, after a brief illness. The following extract from a local paper testifies the esteem in which she was held:

"In the quiet afternoon of an ideal May day, the friends of Mrs. Elizabeth P. Blish gathered at the old homestead, south of the city, Tuesday, and paid a last sad tribute to her noble life. In the large company, which filled the rooms of the hallowed old home and gathered on the lawn, were many whose hair was streaked with gray and whose forms were bent with years. They were the remnant of the sturdy pioneers who conquered the prairies of Illinois in former days. They came to drop a tear of love and bow at the bier of one who has seen the seasons come and go for many, many years. Mrs. Blish was one of the last of the early settlers who assisted in the work of upbuilding whatever of worth has been established here. She was quiet and refined in her bearing, but quick of memory and ready of speech, and those who knew her well heard many a tale of the old pioneer times, intermingled with her delicate sense of humor. Her death is the passing of a landmark, revered, respected and loved most by those who knew her best."

---

#### ELMER E. FITCH.

On the roster of county officials appears the name of Elmer E. Fitch, of Cambridge, who is now filling the position of county clerk in a manner entirely acceptable, for the duties of the office are discharged in a prompt, systematic and thoroughly reliable manner. He is one of the worthy citizens that Ohio has furnished to this state, his birth having occurred in Trumbull county, Ohio, August 13, 1846. In the paternal line he comes of English ancestry, the family having been founded in America during the colonial epoch of our country's history, while at the time of the Revolutionary war representatives of the name were active in supporting American interests. At different times members of the family have attained prominence in various fields of life. After considerable research Elmer E. Fitch feels satisfied that the founder of the family in the new world was Thomas Fitch who settled in Massachusetts in 1638, according to the historian, Selleck, of Norwalk, Connecticut. There were four of the family in successive generations who bore the name of Thomas, and the fourth Thomas Fitch was governor of Connecticut for ten years. William Haynes Fitch, an uncle of our subject, is of the belief that the founder of the family on this side the Atlantic was James Fitch, who came from Bocking, Essex county, England, in 1636. William Haynes Fitch, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Norwalk, Connecticut, and for a number of years engaged in teaching school in New York city. He

married Hannah Lockwood, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of Hezekiah Lockwood, who was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The Lockwood family had one hundred and fifty representatives in the colonial and Revolutionary wars. Hezekiah Lockwood was a descendant of Robert Lockwood, the founder of the family in the new world.

George Fitch, a son of William Haynes and Hannah (Lockwood) Fitch and the father of Elmer E. Fitch, was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, and was educated in New York city, where he also taught school for a number of years. He was twice married. His second wife, Deborah Boleyn, was a sister of his first wife and a daughter of Eli Boleyn, a native of Virginia, who was a cooper by trade and served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812. He married Jane Brisbine, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. In 1854 they removed to Fayette county, Iowa, where they spent their remaining days, Mr. Boleyn dying at the age of seventy-eight years and his wife when sixty-nine years of age. They were the parents of several children: James, Nancy, Margaret, Deborah, Samuel, Thomas and David.

By his first marriage George Fitch had one daughter, Martha Jane, now the deceased wife of Ira Kitch. By the marriage of George Fitch and Deborah Boleyn there were born four children: Martin Bentley, living in Decorah, Iowa; Alice, the deceased wife of Thomas Kennedy; George W., of West Union, Iowa; and Elmer E. On leaving New York city the father removed to Ohio and settled near Youngstown where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in December, 1847, his remains being interred in the Youngstown cemetery. His wife, Mrs. Deborah Fitch, survived him and with her eldest and youngest sons and her brother, Samuel Boleyn, removed to Indiana, settling on a farm five miles north of Laporte. In 1856 she went to Fayette county, Iowa, and in 1861 was there married to William O. Hageman. They became the parents of two children, Philo F. and one who died in infancy.

Elmer E. Fitch, whose name initiates this review, spent two or three years of his early childhood in Mercer county, Pennsylvania and thence accompanied his mother to Laporte, Indiana, and in 1856 to Fayette county, Iowa. He was reared upon a farm in Elyria township and pursued his education in the district schools, the little "temple of learning" which he attended being a log structure. He afterward became a student in the Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, Iowa, there pursuing a two years' college preparatory course. He afterward spent four years in the Iowa State University, at Iowa City, and was graduated with the class of 1874. When no longer a student he continued in the school-room as an instructor and was elected principal of the West Hill grammar school at Burlington, Iowa. In 1875 he was called to Galva, Illinois, as superintendent of the schools of that place and in 1882, he was appointed county superintendent of schools of Henry county by the board of supervisors to fill out the unexpired term of B. F. Barge. In 1883 he declined a reelection as superintendent of the schools of Galva and purchased the Galva News, which he continued to publish until November, 1906, when he was elected to the office of county clerk, entering upon the duties thereof in the following December. He still owns the Galva News, having leased the paper and plant, while his undivided attention is given to his official duties, which are discharged with notable promptness and fidelity.

Such in brief, is the history of Mr. Fitch's business connection, but it by no means covers the extent of his activities. On the 14th of August, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, enrolling his name in the little log school-house where he had pursued his early education when a small boy. On the previous day he had celebrated his sixteenth birthday, but though a boy in years he was a man in all that constituted valorous and faithful service. He was mustered in as a member of Company A, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served as a private soldier until the 5th of September, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and was on picket guard at the time of its surrender. He took part in numerous skirmishes and also in the siege of Fort Morgan, Alabama, and participated in the final charge on Fort Blakeley, Alabama, one of the last movements of the army in the south. After the war he resumed his school work but spent one summer and winter in the lumber regions of Wisconsin. His two brothers, Martin B. and George W. Fitch, were also soldiers of the Civil war, as was also his brother-in-law, Ira Kitch. The last two went from Pennsylvania and with their enlistment every male member of the family was enrolled as a Union soldier. George Fitch was taken prisoner at Gaines Mills, Virginia, and incarcerated in Libby Prison, while Ira Kitch was mortally wounded at Spottsylvania.

In political views Elmer E. Fitch has always been a stalwart republican and served as postmaster of Galva from 1891 until 1895. Always ready to do his duty when called upon he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, for he has had other interests, yet when elected to a position of public trust he has been most faithful to the interests given to his care. Fraternally he is a Master Mason, belonging to Galva Lodge, and he maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades as a member of Galva Post, No. 33, G. A. R. He is prominent in the Mystic Workers of the World, of which he has been supreme director for thirteen years.

On the 5th of July, 1876, Mr. Fitch was married to Miss Rachel Helgesen, who was born near Madison, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Helgesen, who were natives of Norway. They became early settlers of Wisconsin, where the mother died, and the father afterward removed to Decorah, Iowa. He was married three times and by his third wife had four children who are still living, namely: Mrs. Mary Passmore, now a resident of Elsinore, Utah; Hon. Henry T. Helgesen, a resident of Milton, North Dakota and late commissioner of agriculture for that state; Mrs. H. T. Hammer, of Pullman, Illinois; and Albert T., of Crookston, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Fitch have become parents of two sons and a daughter: George, the eldest, now managing editor of the Peoria Herald Transcript, wedded Clara Gattrell Linn, and they have a daughter, Mary G.; Rachel Louise, now at home, was editor of the Galva News for a year and a half; Robert Haines, employed by the Simmons Hardware Company, of St. Louis, wedded Mary Morse and has two daughters, Mary Louise and Rachel Lillian.

Mr. Fitch has resided continuously in Henry county for more than a third of a century and has been a prominent factor in its educational progress and in its public life as a representative of the press, for through the columns of his paper he has labored conscientiously and effectively for the betterment of con-

ditions that affect the general welfare. To make his native talents subserve the demands which conditions of society impose at the present time is the purpose of his life, and by reason of the mature judgment which characterizes his efforts at all times he stands today as a representative and valued citizen of his adopted county, to whom business is but one phase of life and does not exclude his active participation in and support of the other vital interests which go to make up human existence.

---

### MRS. MARY MALMGREN OLSON.

Mrs. Mary Malmgren Olson is a lady of many estimable qualities, now making her home in Bishop Hill, having occupied a nice residence in this village for about five years. She has the distinction of being the first child born in the Bishop Hill colony, her birth occurring December 27, 1846. Her father, Jonas Malmgren, came to Henry county in 1846 from Woxna, Sweden, he being a member of a colony that came about that time. He had started across the Atlantic the year previous, but owing to a shipwreck, was forced to return but the following year the trip was successfully made. He had engaged in the milling business in Bolnas, Sweden, and after coming to Henry county he operated the first grist mill in the colony, continuing work along this line until others came in who could relieve him. He was also a blacksmith by trade and did work along this line for the colony until its dissolution, after which Mr. Malmgren opened a blacksmith shop on his own account and operated the same until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-four years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Catherine Quarnstrum, died in 1849.

The daughter Mary was educated in the colony school and was trained in the duties of the household, so that when she took charge of a home of her own she was well qualified to conduct it in a capable manner. After reaching years of maturity, she was married, December 22, 1866, to Olaf Olson, a young man who had emigrated from Alfta, Sweden, with his parents in 1849. At the time of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, becoming a member of Company I, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of hostilities. Prior to going to war he had worked as a farm hand and soon after he returned home from the field of battle, he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres south of Bishop Hill. On this tract he and his bride began their domestic life, and Mr. Olson cultivated the soil throughout his remaining years. He became quite successful and was numbered among the worthy Swedish-American citizens of Weller township. After a happy married life covering thirty-eight years, they were separated by the death of Mr. Olson, which occurred in April, 1904, when he was sixty-one years of age. Personally, Mr. Olson was quiet and unassuming in manner, preferring rather to spend his time at his own fireside than to mingle with the public. At his death he left to his family a good farming property, and more than that, he left an untarnished name.

Upon the death of the husband and father Mrs. Olson took up her abode in Bishop Hill, where she occupies a nice home and is surrounded by many friends. She has one son and two daughters: Henry, who operates the home farm in Weller township, and who is mentioned on another page of this work; Emma, the wife of P. L. Johnson, who is engaged in the hardware business in Bishop Hill; and Jennie, the wife of E. L. Swanson, the efficient postmaster of this village. Mrs. Olson has one sister, Ulrika, who wedded Olaf Nordstrum and makes her home in Burbank, Alabama.

---

### HENRY G. OLSON.

Henry G. Olson is an enterprising and progressive young man of Weller township, making his home on the farm which was also the place of his birth. His natal day was May 30, 1875, his parents being Olaf and Mary (Malmgren) Olson, whose sketch appears above.

Henry G. Olson, the only son of the family, was educated in the public schools of Bishop Hill, while his training at farm labor was received under the direction of his father on the home place, during the periods of vacation. He continued to assist his father until the latter's death, since which time he has operated the land on his own account. The place consists of one hundred and five acres and he also cultivates another tract of forty acres and he owns twelve acres of timberland. He thoroughly understands his work, is systematic and methodical, and keeps everything about the place in repair, and altogether is a successful and representative business man.

When Mr. Olson took charge of the home farm he sought a companion and helpmate in Miss Almeda Arnquist, a daughter of Andrew Arnquist, a leading merchant of Bishop Hill. After completing her education, Mrs. Olson engaged in teaching for eight years in the primary department of the village schools prior to her marriage, which was celebrated on the 18th of October, 1904. She is the mother of two sons and a daughter: Donald, born July 5, 1905; and Roland and Dorothy, twins, born December 20, 1906.

Mr. Olson does not consider himself bound by party ties but votes for men and measures rather than for party. His fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen and Select Knights. Both he and his wife are well known in this section, where their entire lives have been spent and where they have a wide circle of friends.

---

### JAMES H. ANDREWS.

James H. Andrews of Kewanee, practicing at the Henry county bar as a member of the firm Anderson, Andrews & Welch, and also well known as a local leader of the democracy, was born in Gèneseo, Illinois, December 18, 1870, and is one of a family of ten children, all of whom reached years of maturity.

His parents were James and Marietta (Campbell) Andrews, the former a farmer by occupation. In the country schools the son pursued his early education and afterward benefited by instruction in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and in Knox College at Galesburg, Illinois, graduating from the former in 1891 and the latter in 1895. When his more specifically literary education was completed he began preparation for the practice of law and attended the Illinois College of law in Chicago, where he qualified for a professional career being then admitted to the bar on the 5th of December, 1901.

In the meantime, however, Mr. Andrews had come to Kewanee and was identified with newspaper interests here. He arrived in this city in August, 1897, and soon afterward purchased the Kewanee Democrat. He was also owner and publisher of the Kewanee Daily Verdict, a democratic paper which he issued for three years. In 1895 he organized the Geneseo Arena, which he published for two years, and all this time through his persistent efforts and also through the columns of the paper he was exerting a wide-felt influence in democratic circles. In the fall of 1900 he was elected on the democratic ticket to represent his district in the lower house of the state legislature and served for one term, giving to each question which came up for settlement thoughtful and earnest consideration.

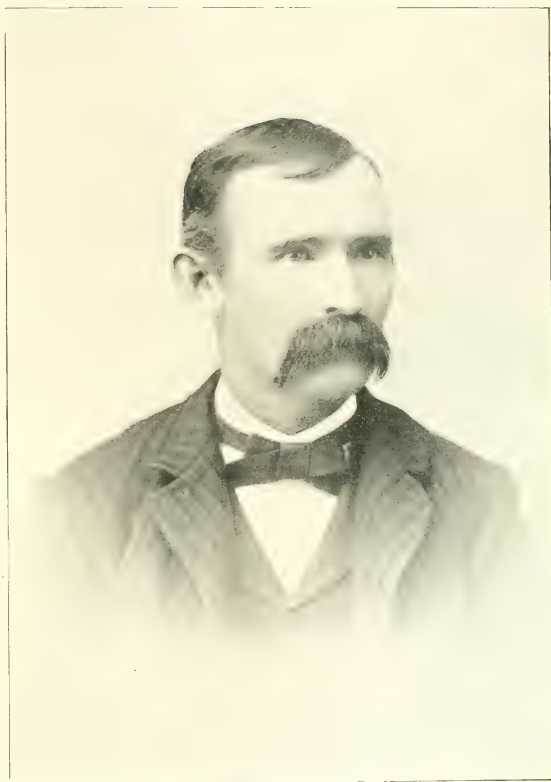
Since admitted to the bar in 1901 Mr. Andrews has engaged continuously in the practice of law and has made steady progress along professional lines. He has never specialized in any particular branch of the profession but has given his attention to general practice, and the ability he has displayed has led to his retention as counsel for the defense or prosecution on many important cases. He is strong in argument, logical in deduction, and his devotion to his clients' interests stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. Moreover, he possesses marked oratorical ability, and his fluent and earnest speech is a factor in his success. In 1906 he entered into partnership with Nels F. Anderson, of Galva, under the firm name Anderson & Andrews. This partnership has existed to the present time, with the addition to the firm of Thomas J. Welch in 1908, under the present firm style of Anderson, Andrews & Welch.

On the 2d of February, 1907, Mr. Andrews was united in marriage to Miss Eva M. Russell, a daughter of Samuel and Matilda Russell, the former now a retired farmer residing in Kewanee. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews have one son, Russell Harper. They are members of the Congregational church and are prominent in the social circles of the city, enjoying in large measure the regard and esteem of all with whom they have been brought in contact.

---

### JAMES M. BROWN.

James M. Brown, who is remembered as a progressive farmer and one of the representative and respected citizens of Henry county, lived for twenty-one years in Osco township, and his substantial qualities gained him the good will and respect of those who knew him and cause his memory to be cherished



JAMES N. BROWN



by those who counted him as a friend. He was born in Fairview township, Fulton county, Illinois, on the 15th of November, 1834, his parents being John and Sarah (Kirkpatrick) Brown. The father, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was of Irish descent, while the mother came of Scotch-Irish ancestry. In their family were five sons and a daughter, including T. Scott Brown, who was first sergeant of Company G, One Hundred and Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war. He lost his right arm at the shoulder in an engagement at Congree Creek, South Carolina, on the 15th of February, 1865. He participated in many of the most hotly contested engagements of that long and sanguinary strife and has a record equaled by few. He enlisted on the 9th of August, 1862, and continued at the front until his injuries prevented his further service. He now makes his home in Cambridge, Illinois. George C., the next of the family, a retired farmer of Osco, this county, died April 24, 1906. John G. Wedded Anna M. Negley and spends his summer months in Marshalltown, Iowa, while the winter seasons are passed in Daytona, Florida. He, too, defended the Union cause when the south rose in rebellion and became sergeant major of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Regiment. Prominent in the public life of his community he represented his district in the state legislature of Iowa for several terms. Mary L., the only daughter of the family, is the wife of Walker Hitchcock, of Orion, Illinois. James M., was the next in order of birth, and one son of the family died in infancy.

Reared upon the old home farm James M. Brown early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. From time of early spring planting he worked in the fields, and after the harvests were gathered in the autumn he pursued his education in the public schools. At the call of his country for aid to crush out the rebellion in the south he enlisted as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, joining that command on the 7th of February, 1865. Soon afterward he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and participated in several of the hotly contested engagements during the latter part of the war. He continued with the army until January 24, 1866, when he received an honorable discharge. When the country no longer needed his aid he resumed farming in his native county, where he continued to reside for several years.

It was on the 5th of February, 1872, that Mr. Brown came to Henry county, establishing his home on a farm near the village of Osco in Osco township. There he lived for two or three years, after which he purchased his father's farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. Meeting with success in its cultivation he afterward extended its boundaries by the additional purchase of eighty acres, and his time and energies were given to its further development and improvement until his demise. It became a valuable property, the fields being rich and productive, so that large harvests were annually gathered.

It was just before his removal to this county that Mr. Brown was united in marriage in Farmington, Illinois, on the 25th of January, 1872, to Miss Mattie E. Myers. She was born in Farmington township, Fulton county, June 15, 1848, a daughter of Henry and Maria (Eshelman) Myers. Her father's birth occurred in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, November 2, 1813, and there his youthful days were passed. He acquired his education in the subscription

schools of that period while spending his boyhood in the home of his father, Valentine Myers, who lived much of his life in Franklin county. His son Henry was but ten years of age at the time of the father's death. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Crill, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and they were the parents of eleven children. Having arrived at years of maturity Henry Myers wedded Maria Eshelman, a daughter of John and Martha (Horsh) Eshelman, who were also natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and of an old family of that state. The maternal grandfather came to this country from Germany. He reared his family in Franklin county, and his daughter Martha became the wife of John Eshelman and the mother of eight children, namely: Samuel, John, Maria, Daniel, Abraham, Martha, Michael and Catherine. Of this number Maria gave her hand in marriage to Henry Myers and for thirteen years thereafter resided in Pennsylvania, where five of their children were born. Believing that better opportunities might be secured in the Mississippi valley, Mr. Myers, in 1848, brought his family to the middle west, floating down the Ohio river from Pittsburg to its junction with the Mississippi. Proceeding northward they arrived at Copperas Creek, Fulton county, Illinois, in the latter part of April, and Mr. Myers made investment in land, securing eighty acres in Farmington township, which he afterward sold. In time, however, he became one the extensive landholders of that section of the state, his possessions aggregating a thousand acres. He displayed sound judgment in his investment and good management in all of his business affairs, and not only did he win prosperity for himself but assisted his children in getting a good start in life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Henry Myers were born thirteen children. Isaac Newton, who married Sarah Elliott, now deceased, was a member of Company G, One Hundred and Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, thus giving his life in defense of the Union. John Wesley married Helen Vittum and resides in Champaign, Illinois. Joseph C., deceased, married Mary Switzer and lived in Canton, Illinois. David M., married Kate Burrows and is engaged in farming near Bushnell, Illinois. At the age of seventeen he enlisted in the same company of which his brother was a member and with his command took part in many hard fought battles. William Henry married Mida Kessler and is now a retired farmer of Canton. Daniel A., married Anna Negley and is a retired farmer of Wichita, Kansas. Henry William died in infancy. Mary C., died at the age of nineteen years. Mattie E., the wife of our subject, is next in order of birth. Adeline B. is the wife of William Norton, a farmer of Fairview township, Fulton county. Susan E., deceased, was the wife of Charles Mull, a farmer living near Wichita, Kansas. Amanda J., is the wife of Henry Cheek, a farmer near Bushnell, Illinois. Nancy M., died at the age of two years.

Mr. Myers was a member of the German Baptist church, and like those of the same faith his life was simple, straightforward and unpretentious. He was a thoroughly good man, kind and charitable toward all, and his unswerving honesty was a marked feature of his character. He was an uncompromising temperance man and was in hearty sympathy with the prohibition movement. In early life he was a whig and cast his vote for William Henry Harrison. His death occurred in 1895. His good wife, who was also a member of the Ger-

man Baptist church, was called to her final rest in December, 1896. They were both buried in the Dunkard cemetery at Farmington, Illinois.

The entire period of their married life Mr. and Mrs. James M. Brown spent in Osco township, and here three children were born unto them: Mae E., who was born February 13, 1874; Roy Scott, who was born January 5, 1881, and attended Geneseo Collegiate Institute; and Frank H., who was born July 29, 1882, and completed his education in the same school. The death of the husband and father occurred May 4, 1893, after a year's illness. He left his family in very comfortable financial circumstances, and, more than that, he left to them the priceless heritage of a good name. Wherever known he was respected and honored for his substantial qualities of heart and mind, and at all times he was as loyal in his citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. Mrs. Brown yet makes her home in Osco township and is yet a member of the Presbyterian church, to which her husband also belonged. During thirty-eight years' residence here she has become widely known and has an extensive circle of warm friends.

---

#### WILLIS FILLMORE EVANS.

Few residents of Phenix township have gained greater success along agricultural lines than Willis Fillmore Evans, a well known farmer and stock-dealer who makes his home on section 20, where he owns an excellent farm of one hundred and forty-five acres. A native of this township, he was born on May 20, 1865, upon the farm which is now his home, his parents being Thomas and Christina (Hershman) Evans. The family has long been represented in this district, the paternal grandparents, James and Lydia (Spaid) Evans, having come to Illinois from Pennsylvania at an early date, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Phenix township, where the grandfather eventually became a large landowner. His son, Thomas Evans, who followed agricultural pursuits throughout his lifetime, purchased ninety-six acres of his father's property and later became the owner of still another farm in Phenix township. He was prominent in the affairs of the community in which he resided and was a stalwart supporter of the republican party. He served one term as road commissioner, but otherwise was not an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his personal interests. He married Lydia Spaid, a native of Pennsylvania. The maternal grandparents had been numbered among the pioneers of Ohio and were also early settlers in Michigan prior to their arrival in Illinois. Thomas Evans, who a few years before his demise had retired from active business life, passed away on the 22d of November, 1891, while his wife's death occurred on the 27th of September, 1886. Their remains were interred in Pink Prairie cemetery, Phenix township. In their family were four children, of which Willis Fillmore, of this review, is the eldest. The others were: Alta M., residing in Kansas, where she is a teacher in the schools of that state; Charles G., who passed away at the age of fourteen years, his death being the result of

a kick by a horse; and Thomas Millard, who is a farmer and stock raiser of Sterlingville, Alberta, Canada.

No event of especial importance came to vary the routine of life for Willis Fillmore Evans during the period of his boyhood and youth, which were spent in the usual manner of the country lad. He enjoyed the advantages of a good common-school education and after laying aside his text-books remained on his father's farm, assisting in the work of the fields and in the school of experience gaining a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of carrying on agriculture. When twenty-two years of age he began working for his father by the month, and continued in that capacity until his twenty-fifth year.

On the 31st of December, 1890, in Phenix township, he was united in marriage to Miss Cora E. Sieben, a native of this township and the daughter of Valentine and Caroline (Butzer) Sieben. Her mother was also born in Phenix township, while the father was a native of Germany, coming to America, with his parents, Joseph and Abaline Sieben, at an early date.

Mr. Evans continued to reside with his father after his marriage and he and his bride began their domestic life upon the farm which is yet their home. He operated the homestead for his father until the latter's death, when he purchased the place at the administrator's sale. The farm which has been brought under a high state of cultivation, consists of one hundred and forty-five acres on sections 20, and 21, and in its midst stand substantial and commodious buildings. The old house in which Mr. Evans was born still remains upon the place and is utilized as a storage and work room. The dwelling in which the family reside was erected by the subject's father, but Mr. Evans has since made many improvements upon it and it is now equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a modern home. He devotes himself to general farming pursuits and also is an extensive stock-raiser, feeder and shipper, the latter branch of his business being a source of most gratifying remuneration to him. He has carried on his various affairs along strictly modern and up-to-date lines and his progressive methods and excellent business ability have been the salient elements in a prosperity which has made him one of the substantial residents of Phenix township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Evans has been blessed with one son, Glenn L., whose birth occurred on the 15th of September, 1894, and who is still a student in the public schools. In the public affairs of the community Mr. Evans has taken a very active part and is an influential and potent factor in local political circles. He is a stalwart supporter of republican principles, having cast his first ballot in 1888 for President Harrison. Since that time he has voted for every candidate on that ticket, and has also been called to offices of responsibility and trust by his fellow citizens. During the years 1890 and 1891, he served as township collector and was also road commissioner for one year. He was then elected township assessor and served for five years, when he refused renomination. After two years, however, he was again elected and served for four years. He was elected school trustee in 1892 and has remained in that office to the present time. For one year he served on the township central committee and was sent as a delegate to the senatorial convention held in Galva in 1906, at which

convention he supported Senator Baker. Throughout his incumbency in public office he has proved a very capable official, at all times proving true to the trust imposed in him and performing the duties that devolve upon him with an efficiency that not only brings credit upon himself but reflects honor upon his constituents. Preeminently a man of affairs, his has been a life of continuous activity which has been crowned with a most substantial success. He has ever kept well informed on all issues and questions of the day and that he is progressive and up-to-date in his views is shown in the fact that in 1908 he purchased the first automobile in Phenix township. His entire life has been passed in this township and the fact that some of his warmest friends are those who have known him from boyhood is an indication that his salient characteristics are those which inspire confidence, trust and good will in his fellow citizens.

---

### JUDGE CHESTER MYERS TURNER.

In no profession is there a career more open to talent than that of the law and in no field of endeavor is there demanded a more careful preparation, a more thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life or of the underlying principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. Unflagging application, intuitive wisdom and a determination to fully utilize the means at hand are the concomitants which insure personal success and prestige in this great profession, which stands as the stern conservator of justice. Possessing all the requisite qualities of the able lawyer, Judge Turner is now successfully practicing at the Henry county bar.

A native of Stark county, Illinois, he was born in Toulon, November 1, 1861, representing one of the old and well known families of that district. His grandfather, Charles Turner, was a native of Delaware and of English descent. He married and had two sons and two daughters: Charles, Benjamin, Mrs. Mary Stowe and Mrs. Schockley. His father, Benjamin Turner, was a native of Dover, Delaware, born December 5, 1807, and in the year 1839 he arrived in Stark county, Illinois, at which time the greater part of the district was still a wild, unsettled and unimproved region. He bought the first lot in Toulon at a public sale of lots and put up the first residence and store there. He took an active part in shaping the history of the county during its formative period and at an early day served as sheriff and county collector, while later he filled the office of county treasurer and for sixteen years was postmaster of his town. He was one of the best informed men of the district, not only concerning matters of local importance but also events of general interest. He was twice married, his first union being with Miss McWilliams, by whom he had a daughter Sarah H., who died at the age of fifty years. For his second wife Benjamin Turner chose Ruth A. Myers, a native of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Stark) Myers, who were also natives of the Keystone state, their marriage occurring June 2, 1857. She was one of a large family of children, only three of whom are now living, namely: Charles Myers, of Toulon, Illinois; P. H. Myers, of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania; and

Ruth A. Myers, the mother of the subject of this sketch. One of her brothers died in the Mexican war, and another in the Civil war. The death of Benjamin Turner occurred March 21, 1887, when he was in his eightieth year, and his widow, who was born November 8, 1832, now resides in Toulon.

Judge Turner, who is the only survivor in a family of five children, the others having died in infancy was largely reared upon a Stark county farm and during that period attended the public schools. He was a member of the first class that was graduated from the Toulon high school on the 16th of May, 1879, while later he entered Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois, and was there graduated in 1884. While remaining at home he took up the study of law in the office of the Hon. Martin Shallenberger, an old resident of Toulon and one of the best practitioners in Illinois. After thorough preliminary reading he was admitted to the bar in 1888 and practiced in Toulon for about two years. On the 30th of June, 1890, he came to Cambridge and has since been a practitioner at the Henry county bar save for the period of his service on the bench. He was elected judge of the county court on the 6th of June, 1899—the tenth anniversary of his marriage—and held the office for four years, his judicial service being characterized by all that marks the able jurist whose knowledge of the law is comprehensive, whose reasoning is sound and deductions logical. That he was correct in the application of the points at law is manifest in the fact that few of his decisions were ever reversed. Retiring from the bench he resumed private practice and is recognized as one of the leading attorneys in Henry county, his preparation of his cases being very thorough, while his presentation of his cause is always clear and forceful.

On the 6th of June, 1889, Judge Turner was married to Miss Emma E. Follett, a native of Missouri and a daughter of Benjamin C. and Helen M. (Rhodes) Follett, natives of Ohio and Illinois respectively. The mother died in 1892 at the age of fifty years but the father still survives and now lives with his daughter, Mrs. Turner. He served as an Ohio soldier in the Civil war. Unto him and his wife were born three children: Mrs. Turner; Plessie A., the wife of R. F. Peterson, living near Sedalia, Missouri; and John B., of Houston, Texas. Unto Judge and Mrs. Turner have been born three children: Helen M., now a sophomore in Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois; Ruth A., a scholar in the Cambridge high school; and Benjamin Follett, a little lad of six summers.

Judge Turner is a director in the Farmers National Bank. In community affairs he has long been prominent and influential and his cooperation has been a potent force for good in many lines of public progress. He is now serving for the eighth term as the president of the board of education, and while in Toulon he acted as justice of the peace for several years. He has likewise been president of the village of Cambridge and for four years served on the board of trustees. He has ever been fearless in espousing the principles in which he believes and never hesitates to avow his honest convictions. He is president of the board of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church, and belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., while in Scottish Rite Masonry, he has attained the thirty-second degree. He has also crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of Mahomet Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Peoria. He likewise belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., and is a past grand

patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Illinois and a past grand representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. He is likewise treasurer of the Department Council Patriarchs Militant of the state of Illinois and a major on the staff of the department commander.

---

### THEODORE F. ERDMAN.

Theodore F. Erdman is a farmer, stock feeder and shipper of Geneseo township. His home is on section 27, where he has about eighty acres of land, and on section 26 he has one hundred acres. His farm is, therefore, quite an extensive one and is a valuable property, equipped with modern improvements, and it produces large crops by reason of the practical and systematic method of its cultivation.

Mr. Erdman is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Edford township, January 13, 1871. He is a son of John and Anna (Hintz) Erdman. The father, a native of Germany, is now living in Edford township, where he has long made his home. In the family were nine children and the record is remarkable in that the circle remains unbroken by the hand of death. The sons and daughters of the household are: Theresa, the wife of Emil Meeske, who is living in Wyoming, Stark county, Illinois; Theodore F.; Emil, who married Emma Hollatz and lives in Geneseo township; Henry, who wedded Martha Miller and makes his home in Minnesota; Otto, who married Louise Kreger and lives in Edford township; Johan, who married Lena Krinjob and is a farmer of Edford township; Mary, the wife of Otto Miller, a resident farmer of Edford township; and Arthur and Ella, at home.

To the occupation of the farm Theodore F. Erdman was reared, and lessons of industry and perseverance were early impressed upon his mind and have borne good fruit in his later years. Through the winter months he attended the common schools and in the summer seasons he followed the plow or gathered the harvest. At twenty-one years of age he began to do for himself, making his start in the business world by working as a farm hand by the month, in which manner he was employed until about twenty-five years of age, saving during that period the sum of six hundred dollars. It is evident that he was careful in his expenditures, making no useless purchases, and that he was continuously employed shows those whom he served found him diligent and capable.

On the 16th of April, 1896, Mr. Erdman was married to Miss Augusta Klewin, whose home was in Edford township, where she was born. She is a daughter of William and Paulina (Pommeramke) Klewin, who are still residents of Edford township. They were born, reared and married in Germany and in 1862 made the long voyage across the Atlantic to the new world. On the same ship sailed John Erdman, the father of our subject, who was then unmarried. Mrs. Erdman, the wife of our subject, is the youngest of a family of ten children, of whom five reached years of maturity and are still living, namely: Julius, who married Mrs. Augusta (Steinke) Hannewald, and lives in Edford; Anna, the wife of Charles Hamann, a resident of Geneseo; Edward, who wedded Mary Fulrath

and is located in Edford; Paulina, the wife of William Hamann, who is located in Galt, Missouri; and Mrs. Erdman.

About the time of his marriage Mr. Erdman rented a farm in Edford township and there carried on general agricultural pursuits for four years. He afterward removed to Phenix township, where he lived for nine years, and in 1908 came to his present home in Geneseo township, having one hundred and eighty acres of land on sections 26 and 27. He has here a comfortable home and good buildings and uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. He rotates his crops and utilizes improved methods of farming and in all of his work is meeting with substantial success. He has engaged in threshing for several years and became the owner of a thresher in 1904.

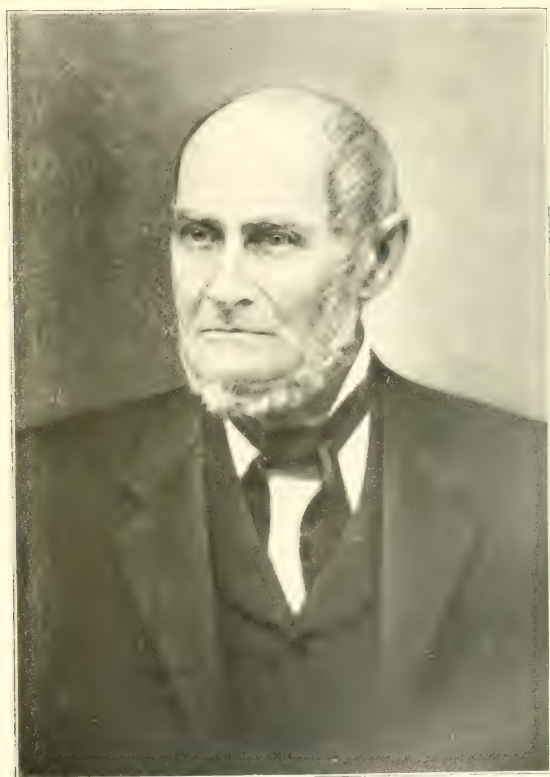
Unto Mr. and Mrs. Erdman have been born three children: Roy, Herbert and Myrtle, the first two having been born in Edford township, and the last named in Phenix township. In his political views, Mr. Erdman is a republican with independent tendencies. He has served as road commissioner for three years and proved a capable and efficient officer, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, which are capably directed and are winning him a very desirable competence. For three years he was a member of the state militia.

---

#### ISAIAH RICHMOND (1809-1899).

Isaiah Richmond, one of the early residents of Geneseo and for many years one of its most influential citizens, was born in Middleboro, Massachusetts, August 5, 1809. He was the youngest son of Benjamin and Abigail (Dean) Richmond and eighth in descent from John Richmond of Wiltshire, England, who is said to have been a descendant of the first Duke of Richmond. He traced his ancestry back through Benjamin, Joseph, Joseph, Joseph, Joseph, John and John. John Richmond came to America about 1635, being one of the first purchasers of Taunton, Massachusetts, in 1637. "The family were large land-owners in the easterly part of the town and gave to a village in that section the name of Richmondtown, which it still bears. Walter Deane, also, his maternal ancestor, was one of the original purchasers of Taunton and Dean street was named in his honor. The descendants in both Dean and Richmond lines were stanch defenders of the colonies in the trying times of the Revolution.

Mr. Richmond, while a student at Scituate, Rhode Island, met Eliza Angell Fenner, also a student at the same seminary, whom he afterward married October 28, 1833. She was a daughter of Jeremiah Fenner, of North Scituate, a descendant of Thomas Fenner, who came from England and died in Branford, Connecticut, in 1647, whose son Captain Arthur Fenner and his descendants were prominent in the history of Providence, Rhode Island, and who furnished two governors to the state. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond lived about four years at the Richmond homestead in Middleboro, Massachusetts, when they removed to North Scituate, Rhode Island. Here at the Fenner homestead they resided for ten years and here were born three of their children: Mary Eliza,



ISAAH RICHMOND



who was born March 16, 1837, and died December 31, 1892; Joseph Warren, born February 20, 1840; and Edwin Adelbert, born October 4, 1842.

In 1835, Mr. Richmond first invested in land on the prairies of Illinois, in Tazewell county. Part of the land was purchased of residents of Tremont and part from the "Smithfield Western Emigrating Association" of Tremont. In November, 1839, he bought of the government one hundred and sixty acres in this vicinity, the papers bearing the name of President Van Buren. Mr. Richmond made two journeys to the west on horseback to look after his extensive landholdings—about one thousand acres in all—but not until 1844, did he bring his family to the new country. He made a home for one year at Tremont, which place he left for Groveland near Peoria, where he lived till 1854. There were hard times in those days of "Wild Cat" money and it was difficult to obtain money sufficient to pay taxes on land. In Groveland, Mr. Richmond conducted a hotel which was maintained a temperance house. In that day the use of intoxicants was much more common than at the present time and it required great courage to thus go against public opinion, but he stood firmly by his convictions and thus by his example advocated the cause of temperance.

Four children were born at the Groveland home: Abbie Dean R., who was born October 30, 1844, and died July 12, 1872; Francis Eugene and Maria Louisa, twins, born August 17, 1847; and Prudence Amelia, who was born March 27, 1850, and died March 31, 1853.

About this time, Mr. Richmond purchased land on the south side of Geneseo, securing about sixty acres and, in 1854, built a house, moving his family from Groveland in December to the home at the foot of State street, where his youngest child Helen Annette, was born, and who afterward married Mortimer Fleet and lives in Ashland, Oregon. Soon selling the first house, Mr. Richmond built and occupied the house one block east on Buffalo street, now called Oakwood avenue, which continued to be the home until after the death of his wife in 1879. This part of Geneseo was called the Richmond addition.

Soon after coming to Geneseo, Mr. Richmond engaged in the nursery business, there being at the time but one other nursery in the county—the small one at Wethersfield. Having a natural aptitude for horticulture and kindred occupations, he developed the business till his nursery became the center of a large local trade, people coming long distances for trees and plants. There are many orchards in the vicinity which were planted from his nursery stock and some of them are the result of his making leases of land on which to grow young trees, it being stipulated that he leave an orchard on the land. In 1866, wishing to extend the business, he and his son Joseph bought of Mr. Merriman the site of the present nursery, the land being then covered with hazel bushes and scrub oaks, but considered superior to prairie soil for the propagation of nursery stock. Mr. Richmond soon after sold his interest to his sons Joseph and Edwin, who thereafter conducted the nursery business.

Mr. Richmond was a man of sterling worth and highly respected by all who knew him. He was a liberal giver toward all measures for the advancement of the town or community. He was a life-long member of the Congregational church and assisted largely in the building of the present church edifice. Visiting pastors and all who were interested in good work, were always cordially

welcomed to his hospitable home. He was always a strong advocate of the temperance cause and was among the first to believe that prohibition was the only safe course. In politics he was a republican.

---

### JEREMIAH FENNER RICHMOND.

At the Richmond homestead in Middleboro, Massachusetts, Jeremiah Fenner Richmond was born, November 19, 1834. He was the oldest son of Isaiah and Eliza A. (Fenner) Richmond. When about three years of age, he went with his parents to live at Scituate, Rhode Island, and was ten years old when the family came to Tremont, Illinois, in 1844, later to Groveland and finally to Geneseo in 1854. Here he learned the carpenter's trade of Harry McArthur and assisted in building the first home of the Richmonds in Geneseo, at the south end of State street. He married, March 31, 1856, Celia Manville, and for several years Geneseo was their home. They afterward lived in Chicago, Omaha and Marysville, California, where he died May 5, 1879. While living in Omaha, their son Ralph was born, who married and lived in Greene, New York, where his two children were born—Celia Manville and Ralph, Jr.

During the Civil war, Mr. Richmond enlisted as private in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, but later was transferred to the commissary department. After the close of the war, he again engaged in carpentry and removing to Chicago he became an extensive and successful contractor. Here he met George Francis Train, who was interested in the development of Omaha and contracted with him for the erection of numerous buildings in that growing city.

During the extension of the Union Pacific Railroad, he contracted for the construction of stations and necessary buildings along the line of the railway, in many places the work being guarded from the depredations of hostile Indians. He amassed quite a fortune for those days, but later lost heavily in contracting for the erection of a large hotel in Cheyenne.

After her husband's death in Marysville, California, May 5, 1879, Mrs. Richmond returned to Geneseo, where she remained for a time, later going to live with her sister, Mrs. Hattie (Manville) Calkins, in Galesburg, Illinois, and at whose home she died.

---

### JOSEPH WARREN RICHMOND.

Joseph Warren Richmond is the owner of Prospect Hill Nursery farm situated on section 29, Geneseo township, about a mile from the city of Geneseo, Illinois. It is an attractive and valuable property, lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of the model farm of the twentieth century and indicates in its well kept appearance the careful supervisions and progressive method of the owner.

Mr. Richmond was born in North Scituate, Rhode Island, February 20, 1840, and is the son of Isaiah and Eliza Angell (Fenner) Richmond. He was about four years of age when his father came with his family to Illinois, living one year at Tremont, Tazewell county, and about nine years at Groveland, near Peoria, when in the fall of 1854, they came to Geneseo, which has since been the family home.

Here the father established a nursery, the second in the county, there being a small nursery at Wethersfield. Mr. Richmond may be said to have grown up in the nursery business since he assisted his father during his youth and early manhood, thus gaining valuable experience concerning general agricultural methods and the care and propagation of nursery stock. In 1866 he and his father bought sixty acres of land on section 29, Geneseo township, and the business was transferred to its present location. Soon after this Mr. Richmond was joined by his brother Edwin and together they purchased their father's interest in the business. The brothers added to their acres and extended the business, being associated together for fifteen years, Edwin acting as manager of the nursery and local trade for ten years, while Joseph W. traveled with a force of salesmen in Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan.

Following the death of his brother Edwin, in December, 1880, Mr. Richmond remained at home, giving personal attention to local affairs and trusting the outside trade entirely to agents. He was joined by his younger brother, Francis E. and together they purchased the interest left by the deceased brother and were associated in the business for two years, when Joseph W. became sole proprietor. They had previously purchased the homestead at the foot of Oakwood avenue, and in the division of the property, Francis E took that as his share, while Joseph W. kept the nursery.

It was during the one season spent in traveling through Michigan, that Mr. Richmond met in Saginaw, at her father's home, Clara McLellan, to whom he was married May 25, 1881. She is a daughter of Benjamin and Emeline (Palmer) McLellan and was born on the 26th of November, 1854, in Saginaw. She was educated in the Saginaw high school, was two years a student at the Michigan State Normal school at Ypsilanti and studied one year at Wellesley College, Massachusetts. While in the east, she visited the birthplace of her father in Thornton, Grafton county, New Hampshire. He was born October 18, 1813, the youngest son of John McLellan (1742-1817), a native of Perthshire, Scotland. On coming to America in 1774, John McLellan settled in Thornton and continued a respected citizen of the old Granite state till his death. He married Dorothy Varnum, of Dracut, Massachusetts, a descendant of George and Sarah (Langton) Varnum, who came from England about 1635, and settled at Ipswich, (Agawam), Massachusetts, and whose descendants served with distinction in the Revolutionary war. Dorothy Varnum's mother was Sarah Coburn, five of whose relatives participated in the siege of Boston. Mrs. Richmond's father, Benjamin McLellan, went to Michigan in 1834, Saginaw then being but an Indian trading post, and he lived to see it develop by means of the lumber and salt industries into the third city in the state, surrounded by a rich agricultural country. He married February 12, 1845, Emeline Palmer, of Livonia, New York, a descendant of the John Palmer, who received a grant of land in

1667 at Greenwich, Connecticut, many of whose descendants served in the Revolutionary war and their sons likewise being patriots in the war of 1812.

After their marriage and a short visit at Niagara Falls and Watkins Glen, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond began housekeeping at Prospect Hill, which has ever since been their home. They have two children: Mildred Ella Richmond, born October 21, 1888, a graduate of the Geneseo high school of the class of 1907 and a student at the University of Michigan of the class of 1911; and Warren McLellan Richmond, born July 5, 1895, a member of the Geneseo high school of the class of 1913.

Mr. Richmond has always been interested in horticulture and is a local authority on matters pertaining to fruit and plant industry. He is a member of the National Association of Nurserymen. He has always been a republican, following in the political footsteps of his father, but has never been an office seeker. Like his father, he has also advocated the cause of temperance throughout his entire life, and in the nursery business has always taken the stand that he did not care for the trade that had to be bought with whisky or by treating. He is a member of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M. He has led a busy and useful life, has ever been found honorable, reliable and progressive in business and courteous and genial in his social relations, and he thus enjoys in large measure the confidence and regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

---

#### EDWIN ADELBERT RICHMOND.

Edwin Adelbert Richmond, for fifteen years a partner in the business at Prospect Hill Nursery and a respected citizen of Geneseo, was a son of Isaiah and Eliza A. (Fenner) Richmond and was born at Scituate, Rhode Island, October 4, 1842. He came with his father's family to Illinois in 1844 and to Geneseo in 1854, which continued to be his home until his decease in December, 1880.

At the outbreak of the Civil war, the spirit of patriotism inherited from Revolutionary ancestors asserted itself and he enlisted as a private in Company B, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Ransom Harrington, captain, Colonel Brackett's regiment, his older brother, Jeremiah, being a member of the same company. He was afterward transferred to the commissary department.

After the close of the war, he married on the 28th of November, 1868, Juliett Pratt, a daughter of Jared Pratt, of North Middleboro, Massachusetts, bringing his bride to the home at Prospect Hill, where their three children were born: Mabel Pratt, born August 6, 1870, who married Adoniram Faunce, of Brockton, Massachusetts, and has one daughter, Ruth; Ray R., born December 19, 1873, who married Mabel Florence Gammons, of Brockton, Massachusetts, and has one son, Warren; Edwin, Jr., born in April, 1876, who married Sadie Church, and has one son, Stanford Church.

Mr. Richmond was associated with his brother Joseph in conducting and extending the business of Prospect Hill Nursery, he managing all local affairs till his death on the 13th of December, 1880. After her husband's decease, Mrs. Richmond returned with her little family to North Middleboro, her girlhood

home, and there her children were educated. Mr. Richmond was a stirring, progressive, business man of strict integrity, and his genial nature made him a favorite among his fellow citizens. He was a member of Stewart Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

---

#### FRANCIS EUGENE RICHMOND.

Francis Eugene Richmond, the youngest son of Isaiah and Eliza Angell (Fenner) Richmond, of Geneseo, was born at Groveland, Illinois, August 17, 1847. He came to Geneseo with his father's family in December, 1855, and here pursued his education, continuing his course until he became a high school student. He afterward engaged in teaching school for several years in the vicinity of Geneseo and in December, 1880, on the death of his brother Edwin, became a partner in the nursery business with his brother Joseph. Two years later, however, he withdrew from the firm.

On the 29th of January, 1881, Francis E. Richmond was married to Miss Mary Amelia Hopkins, of Woodstock, Connecticut, who was born November 25, 1853. They lived for two years at the Prospect Hill nursery and then removed to the Richmond homestead on Oakwood avenue in Geneseo. They became the parents of four children, Winnefred Eliza, Abbie Louise, Leila May and Francis Eugene, Jr.

Mr. Richmond was a member of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M. He was highway commissioner for about ten years and at all times was interested in the welfare and progress of the community. He met death by accidental drowning, June 23, 1898.

---

#### THE UNION NATIONAL BANK.

The Union National Bank of Kewanee was organized December 29, 1880, and began business February 1, 1881. It was organized with a capital of fifty thousand dollars and a surplus of one thousand dollars. Its first directors were: Thomas P. Pierce, William H. Lyman, Stephen Bull, Rollie F. Wiley, Michael C. Quinn, William W. Stevens and Andrew F. Bigelow; while from that number the following were chosen as the first officers: Thomas P. Pierce, president; William H. Lyman, vice president; Hosmer L. Kellogg, cashier; and Rollie F. Wiley, assistant cashier. In January, 1884, the capital stock was increased twenty-five thousand dollars with five thousand dollars surplus. The present directors are: Thomas P. Pierce, William H. Lyman, N. W. Tibbetts, Fred Gunther, John Bowen, Thomas F. Oliver and B. F. Baker. The present officers are: Thomas P. Pierce, president; William H. Lyman and N. W. Tibbetts, vice presidents; W. W. Calhoun, cashier; L. L. Priestman and W. T. Pierce, assistant cashiers.

The Union National Bank owns its business block at the corner of Tremont and Second streets. This is a two-story, brown-stone structure, twenty-one by

seventy-five feet, with basement, and was erected in 1899. In connection with the commercial business they conduct a savings department on which interest is paid at the rate of three per cent. The report of the bank made September 15, 1909, showed:

LIABILITIES.	
Capital Stock .....	\$ 75,000.00
Surplus Undivided Profits .....	144,983.83
National Bank Notes Outstanding .....	50,000.00
Deposits .....	579,088.98
	<hr/>
	849,072.81
RESOURCES.	
Loans—Bonds, etc. ....	\$621,001.67
U. S. Bonds .....	50,000.00
Banking House and Real Estate .....	25,150.00
Due from Banks .....	104,989.38
Cash on hand .....	45,431.76
5% Fund at Washington .....	2,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$849,072.81

### OLAF ALLGREN.

Olaf Allgren successfully follows farming on eighty acres of land, which he owns in Weller township. As the name indicates, he is a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred in Helsingland, August 25, 1847. His parents, Lars and Christine (Olson) Allgren, the latter a daughter of Eric Olson, spent their entire lives in that country. The father, who followed farming as a life work, died when seventy-two years of age, and the mother passed away some twenty years ago.

Olaf Allgren was reared on the home farm and attended school in his native land. About the time he attained his majority in the spring of 1868, he set sail for America, believing that he might enjoy better advantages in the new world than could be had in Sweden. He worked at farm labor in Henry county until 1882, and during these years prospered, so that he was then enabled to purchase eighty acres in Weller township, located two miles southeast of Bishop Hill. He has placed his fields in a good state of cultivation and annually gathers rich crops while in 1894 he erected a nice country home and he has built substantial barns and other outbuildings on his place so that it is one of the best improved tracts in this section of the county.

Mr. Allgren was married in Bishop Hill on the 8th of August, 1874, to Miss Mary Bloom, a daughter of Peter N. Bloom, who came here in 1847 with a colony of his countrymen. There are one son and three daughters of this marriage: Lillie E., the wife of Fred Spiegel, a farmer of Cambridge township; Elnora O., the wife of John Spiegel, also farming in that township; Gilbert E.,

who assists his father on the home farm; and Lulu M., a young lady, also under the parental roof.

Mr Allgren is a stanch democrat, believing firmly in the principles of that party and taking an active interest in all public affairs. While not accepting some of the dogmas of religious bodies and uniting with no church, he nevertheless lives an upright life, basing his actions and conduct upon the principles of the Golden Rule.

---

### OTIS W. HOIT.

Otis W. Hoit needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for as the president of the First National Bank of Geneseo and also as a representative farmer of the county, he is well known. Through the long years of his residence here he has been active in cooperating in many movements for the public good and his business affairs have largely been of a character that have contributed to general development and improvement.

Mr. Hoit was born on section 24, Edford township, Henry county, May 24, 1857, the only child of Levi Wilson and Sarah E. (French) Hoit, and was reared in his father's home. He has spent his entire life in Henry county and the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist early became familiar to him. His preliminary knowledge of books was acquired in the district schools and he afterward attended the Geneseo high school, from which he was graduated in the class of 1875. In the fall of the same year he entered the University of Illinois, where he pursued a four years' course and was graduated in 1879. Thus well equipped by liberal education for life's practical and responsible duties he began farming in partnership with his father and the association was maintained for a year. His father then removed to Geneseo, and Otis W. Hoit continued to operate the home farm. He is still actively engaged in the development and further improvement of a valuable property of four hundred acres, which in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision and practical methods. He also owns other land in this county, together with farm land in Iowa. For the past seven years he has made his home in Geneseo, but yet supervises his agricultural interests, although he is now acting as president of the First National Bank.

On the 11th of September, 1879, Mr. Hoit, was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Stewart, a daughter of John P. Stewart, of Champaign county, Illinois. Their only child died in infancy and Mrs. Hoit passed away May 19, 1885. On the 11th of October, 1888, Mr. Hoit was again married, his second union being with Miss Henrietta M. P. Schroeder, a daughter of Henry Schroeder. There is one son of the second marriage, Maurice, who was born June 23, 1893. Mrs. Hoit was born in Edford township, Henry county, but her parents were natives of Germany. They became early settlers of Rock Island county, Illinois, and also established their home in Henry county when there were but comparatively few residents within its borders. They now live in Geneseo.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hoit hold membership in the Congregational church. He is earnest in his advocacy of the principles of the republican party and has

served as chairman of the county central committee. He was mayor of Geneseo for one term, and was township supervisor for eight or ten years. Over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. His course has been characterized by unfaltering fidelity to duty, and his sense of commercial honor is equally strict and exacting.

---

### HIRAM TOWSLEY LAY.

Fifty-five years ago Hiram T. Lay became connected with the mercantile interests of Kewanee and almost continuously throughout the intervening period he has been identified with the business interests of the city. His record is such as any man might be proud to possess, for he has never made engagements that he has not fulfilled nor incurred obligations that he has not met. In the legitimate channels of trade he has sought his success, placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of industry, perseverance and the wise utilization of opportunities.

Mr. Lay was born in Southport, now Kenosha, Wisconsin, on the 16th of January, 1839, his parents being Nelson and Maryette Lay. At the usual age he entered the common schools of his native city, which has the right to boast of having the first free schools organized west of the New England states. In the fall of 1854 he came to Kewanee, being then a young man of sixteen years, and entered the mercantile establishment of his father as clerk. Since that time he has been active in commercial lines. His clerical experience was with his father, who conducted a dry-goods store at the corner of Main and Second streets. He was afterward with the firms of Lay & Tenny; Howard & Tenny; Tenny, Hardy & Company; Little, Perkins & Company; and R. A. Tenny, the assignee of C. N. Cutter; Lay & McIntyre; and of Parker, Galloway & Company. In the winter of 1858-59 he pursued a business course in the well known Bryant & Stratton Business College.

After a brief experience in connection with mining interests in Colorado in 1860, Mr. Lay returned to Kewanee and joined his father in the grain business, and in the spring of 1864 entered the service of the United States as first lieutenant of Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the expiration of his term. On his return from the army he entered the employ of H. C. Parker, and in January, 1865, accepted a clerkship in J. R. Payson's general insurance agency, in Chicago, there remaining for a short time. In February, 1865, he entered the employ of Elias Lyman and in March, 1867, was admitted to a partnership in the business, the firm name becoming Lyman & Lay. W. H. Lyman was taken into the firm known as Lyman, Lay & Lyman in 1874. The name was changed to Lay & Lyman in 1883 when the senior partner retired. This business is the outgrowth of the pioneer dry-goods house of Willard & Morse, who were succeeded by Parrish & Faulkner, while later the business was owned by Willard & Lyman, then by Lyman & Trask, and afterward by Elias Lyman. Mr. Lay disposed of his interests in the mercantile firm now Lyman-Lay Company in January, 1905, to his two sons, Frank M. and

Henry H. The various real estate interests of Lay & Lyman remain intact, to which Mr. Lay gives his personal attention. The business of the present is now of an extensive and important character, a large and well selected line of goods being carried, while the business methods of the house have secured to them an extensive patronage. Mr. Lay was one of the organizers of the First National Bank and was also one of its directors for two years. He also assisted in the organization of the Union National Bank and his initiative spirit has been a valuable element in the business development of the community.

In November, 1861, Mr. Lay was united in marriage to Miss Martha Morrill, of Danville, Vermont, the wedding being celebrated at Malden, Bureau county, Illinois, and unto them have been born the following named: Corliss W., Maryette, the wife of R. C. Morse; Frank M., who is manager of the Boss Manufacturing Company; Louise, the wife of Xenophon Caverno; and Henry H., all residents of Kewanee.

For many years Mr. Lay has been an active worker in the Congregational church, his energy as well as his money having been given liberally for the promotion of its interests. He is justly accorded a place among the prominent and representative men of Kewanee, for he belongs to that class of men whose enterprising spirit is used not alone for their own benefit. He also advances the general good and promotes public prosperity by his ably managed individual interests. He has excellent ability as an organizer, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution. This enables him to conquer obstacles which deter many a man and it has been one of the salient features in his success.

---

### CARL EDWARD SWANSON.

Numbered among the younger citizens of Munson township who are seeking their fortunes in agricultural lines is Carl Edward Swanson who, since his father's retirement in 1908, has been operating the homestead farm, his efforts in this line of activity being crowned with most gratifying success. Born in Atkinson township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 17th of August, 1881, he is the son of Andrew and Christina (Swanson) Swanson, both natives of Sweden who are now living retired in Geneseo. Further mention is made of them on another page of this volume.

Coming to his present home when a little lad of six years, Carl Edward Swanson has therefore spent almost his entire life within the borders of Munson township, the period of his boyhood and youth being devoted to acquiring an education as a pupil in the district schools and assisting his father in the work of the home farm, while he later benefited by two terms of study at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. When twenty-one years of age he began working for his father by the month and continued in that capacity until he was about twenty-five years of age, when his father retired from the active duties of business life, at which time the son took full charge of the home farm, in the capable operation of which he has since been engaged. The farm consists of five hundred and ninety acres all in one body and all under an excellent state of cultivation.

Well equipped for the responsible and practical duties that devolved upon him when he took up the work laid aside by his father, he has since applied himself with a diligence and industry that has already gained him rank among the progressive and enterprising young farmers and augurs well for a most successful future.

In politics Mr. Swanson is a republican, giving stalwart allegiance to that party at the polls but never seeking nor desiring public office for himself as a reward for party fealty. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and is a young man whose sterling traits of character and honorable and upright manhood have gained him the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. Having passed almost his entire life in this township, he has become widely known and his circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

---

#### ANDREW SWANSON.

Among the residents of Geneseo whose well directed efforts in agricultural lines during former years now make it possible for them to live in retirement, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of their many years of labor, is Andrew Swanson. As the name indicates, he is of Swedish origin, his birth having occurred in Jonkoping, Sweden, on the 24th of July, 1847, The father passed away when the son was but six months old. The first eight years of his life were spent in the land of his nativity, and then in 1855 he accompanied his mother, two sisters and a brother-in-law to the United States, where settlement was made near Cleveland, Henry county, Illinois. This continued to be his home for several years, when he started out on an independent business career as a farm hand, working out by the month. He was thus engaged for some time and later carried on general agricultural pursuits for several years in the capacity of renter. In the meantime he labored diligently and industriously, his efforts being actuated by the laudable ambition to some day own a farm of his own, and through close application and economy he was eventually able to enjoy the fulfillment of his desire. With the money which he had carefully saved he purchased five hundred and ninety acres of land in Munson township, located on section 1, and at once began its further improvement and development. During the former years he had made a close study of agriculture and had gained a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting, so that when he entered upon an independent venture of his own, he was well prepared to carry it forward to successful completion. His farm became one of the highly improved properties of the township and as the years passed he prospered in his undertaking, his labors being crowned with a most substantial success. In 1908 he put aside active business duties and removed to Geneseo, where he erected a beautiful residence, equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories. He has now attained the sixty-second milestone on life's journey and in the evening of life is enjoying all the comforts made possible by the possession of a handsome competence.

On the 23d of October, 1873, Mr. Swanson was united in marriage to Miss Christina Swanson, a native of Sweden, who in 1871 came to the United States, with two sisters, Anna and Mary, locating in Geneseo. Anna Swanson passed away in Ottawa, while Mary became the wife of Axel Parson and now makes her home in Pueblo, Colorado. The parents of Mrs. Swanson were Swen Parson and Keise (Peterson) Swanson, both of whom died in Sweden, the father in 1905 when past eighty years of age, and the mother in 1908 when eighty-six years of age. In their family were nine children, six of whom still survive, namely: Andrew, Christina, Mary, Emma, Carl and Gust. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Swanson were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows: Nellie Cecelia, who resides on the old homestead with her brother; Anna E., still at home; Lillie Amelia, the wife of Charles Larson, of Geneseo township; Carl Edward, operating the home farm; Arthur LeRoy and Eva Caroline, who are yet under the parental roof; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Swanson hold membership in the Lutheran church of Geneseo, in the work of which they are deeply interested and in which Mr. Swanson is serving as trustee. Politically he is a republican, giving stalwart support to that party which in his opinion is best adapted to conserve the public welfare. For a number of years he served as school director, but otherwise never sought nor desired public office, preferring rather to concentrate his energies upon his private business affairs. He has never been remiss, however, in the duties of citizenship and in spite of the fact that he was born across the waters he has ever been most loyal to the interests of his adopted country. His has been a life of continuous activity in which industry, thrift and enterprise—common characteristics of his race—have been salient elements. His success has been honestly won, however, having ever been honorable and upright in his dealings with his fellowmen, and the principles which have been the guiding influences of his life have been such that now, in the sixty-second year of his age he can look back upon the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

---

#### MICHAEL SHARP.

One of the farms in Colona township which enjoys the distinction of being called a model one in its appointments for the caring of stock and in its facilities for carrying on successful farming is that known as the Wayside farm, of which Michael Sharp is the proprietor. It was the place of his birth, which occurred December 22, 1871. He is a son of William J. and Anna (Bowman) Sharp, the former a native of Hawkins county, Tennessee, where he was born April 17, 1832, the latter a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where her birth occurred June 1, 1838. The families of both came to Illinois about 1841 and settled in Rock Island and Henry counties, and on April 27, 1856, the young people were married and Mr. Sharp brought his bride to the farm on which his son still lives in Colona township. He here pursued general farming and became identified with the best interests of the locality. A democrat in his political views, he filled

the offices of school trustee, road commissioner and school director for many years, while as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church he gave his best efforts to promoting its interests. All his life he was closely identified with its work, being for a number of years a class leader and superintendent. He died February 11, 1906, and was buried in the Western cemetery. His widow still lives on the home farm. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Sarah H., who has remained unmarried; Henrietta, who is the wife of Joseph Charles, of Rock Island; Rachel, deceased; George, who is married and lives in North Dakota; Matilda, who is the wife of Edward Brown, of Moline; Michael, who is the subject of this sketch; and Stella, who is deceased.

Michael Sharp grew to manhood upon the farm on which he now resides, participating in its work and receiving his education in the public schools of Colona township. In his early manhood he married and brought his bride to the home place, which he has since operated. While he has engaged to some extent in diversified farming, he has given the greater part of his attention to stock raising, making a specialty of red polled dual purpose cattle, American Hampshire or thin rind hogs and mules. The mules are sent to the market. His hogs and cattle are used for breeding purposes and, being thoroughbred animals, command good prices throughout the country. His excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres is a model in its equipment for handling stock, for there are adequate barns and stock sheds, affording shelter and feeding facilities in bad weather, so that every animal has the best housing and protection from the elements. He exhibits nearly every year at the Chicago International Fat Stock Show, almost invariably being a successful competitor for prizes. Not infrequently he exhibits also at the Illinois State Fair, from which he also receives numerous medals and ribbons. The results of his thoroughgoing method have thus won him wide recognition as a breeder and feeder of the best stock.

On the 8th of January, 1896, Mr. Sharp was united in marriage to Miss May Washburn, a daughter of Benjamin F. and Maria (Williams) Washburn. To that union have been born two sons, Homer L. and William F. A republican in his political views, he is always interested in public questions but has taken little active part in local government. He has, however, served as road commissioner and is still a member of the board of education. Although he finds little time to devote to matters outside his private concerns, he is public spirited, ever giving his support to improvements which are calculated to advance the welfare of his fellow citizens. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Interested in his business and unsparing of effort for its advancement, he has placed the Wayside farm among the most paying in this county.

---

#### GEORGE EVANS.

George Evans, who in his sixty-fifth year is still active in the world's work as a prominent and successful representative of agricultural interests, is the owner of valuable farm property in Henry county, where he makes his home on section 21, Phenix township. Born in this township on the 4th of October,

1844, he is a son of James and Lydia (Spaid) Evans, natives of Pennsylvania, the former's birth occurring in Luzerne county and the latter's near Sugar-grove, Warren county. The parents were married in the Keystone state and came west to Illinois about the year 1838, locating in Phenix township, Henry county, where the father purchased eighty acres of land from a Mr. Browning. Here he reared his family and spent the remainder of his life. As the years passed he prospered and was able from time to time to add to his realty holdings until at the time of his death he was the owner of five hundred acres of land. When he left home at the age of twenty-one years to seek his own fortune he had but enough money to buy his dinner, and from that humble beginning he worked his way upward until he ranked among the substantial and prosperous farmers of his part of the township. He was a stalwart republican in politics, but never sought nor desired office for himself. In his family were nine children, of whom George Evans is the fourth in order of birth. Sabine, the eldest, became the wife of Joseph Hanney and passed away in Phenix township. John C. married Emeline Fritz and had three children. He moved west, since which time all trace of him has been lost. Thomas Evans was united in marriage to Christina Hershman and passed away in Geneseo, leaving three children. Frank, who is also deceased, married Sabina Spaid, by whom he had one child. Elizabeth died in infancy. Freeman married Emma Graft and makes his home in Geneseo. Millard Fillmore passed away when about twenty-one years of age. Lydia, the youngest, is the wife of Gilbert and resides in Oklahoma. The subject's grandfather, Thomas Evans, came to Henry county some years after the arrival of his son. He was then an old man and he made his home with one of his daughters in Cornwall, where he and his wife both passed away. Their remains were interred in the old Geneseo cemetery.

George Evans, whose name introduces this review, spent the period of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm and at the usual age was sent as a pupil to the district schools, where he acquired a good knowledge of the common branches of the English language. He also obtained much experience in agricultural lines under his father's direction, for the periods of vacation were spent in the work of the fields, and he remained under the parental roof until twenty-five years of age, when he was united in marriage. After this event he remained with his mother for two years operating a portion of his father's land, and then removed to his present farm, which he had previously purchased from his father. He has since directed his energies to its further development and has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, while he has made many modern improvements upon the place which constitute it one of the valuable farming properties in the township. As he has prospered he has been able to purchase additional property and he now owns, aside from the sixty acres in his home place, another farm of one hundred and twenty acres and a tract of timberland in Phenix township. Progressive and up-to-date in his methods, he is meeting with substantial success, his agricultural interests proving a source of gratifying remuneration to him.

On the 28th of September, 1869, in Cambridge, Mr. Evans was united in marriage to Miss Martha Adeline Santee, of Loraine township, who was born

near Reading, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Martin and Mary (Henry) Santee. She benefited by good common school education and came to Illinois with her parents when about nineteen years of age. By her marriage to Mr. Evans she became the mother of five children: Carrie, the widow of Edwin Claypool, who has one child, Julia, and makes her home in Geneseo; James Martin, living on the home farm; George Francis, a farmer of Phenix township, who married Stella Thompson and has two sons, Howard James and Floyd Raymond; Mary Estella; and Christina, who passed away in infancy.

Fraternally Mr. Evans is a member of the Yeoman of America and in politics he gives stalwart allegiance to the republican party, but is not an office seeker. He has never been unmindful of his obligations to his fellowmen, and that he has never intrenched upon their rights and privileges is indicated by the fact that he has never been involved in any law suit. He is always the same honorable and upright gentleman in whatever relation of life he is found and his salient characteristics are such as have gained him the respect, confidence and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

---

#### ALBERT A. SEDGLEY.

Albert A. Sedgley, who carries on general farming on section 17, Geneseo township, first became a resident of Henry county in 1855. His business activities, however, afterward carried him into various sections of the country, but in 1892 he turned to Geneseo and through the past seventeen years has continuously remained in the county.

His birth occurred in Broomfield, Maine, September 7, 1840, his parents being Levi and Martha (Johnson) Sedgley, who were likewise natives of the Pinetree state. The former was a son of William Sedgley, a farmer by occupation, who lived at Limington, Maine, where he died at the venerable age of eighty-four years. His wife also spent her entire life in that state. In their family were eight children including Levi Sedgley, who took up the mason's trade in early manhood and became a skilled workman. While still living in New England, he wedded Martha Johnson, a daughter of Daniel and Mary Johnson, who were natives of Maine and there reared their family of thirteen children. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Levi Sedgley began their domestic life in Maine and in 1855 removed westward with their family, settling first in Geneseo, where the father erected the first gristmill of the town. Following his trade, he erected many buildings in Geneseo, thus becoming closely associated with its material improvement. He was also active in public affairs, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to several local offices. For many years he served as supervisor of Geneseo township, was also a member of the school board and was a well educated man. His services in the state militia of Maine won him the rank of major, by which title he was always known. He held membership in the Unitarian church while his wife was a member of the Freewill Baptist church. His death occurred in this county

in 1890 when he was seventy-eight years of age, while his wife passed away in 1872 at the age of sixty years. They were the parents of three sons, namely: Albert A.; Charles W., of Mount Vernon, Illinois; and Benjamin L., of Chicago. The eldest child, Charles William, was a soldier of the Civil war.

Albert A. Sedgley arrived in Geneseo when a youth of fifteen and spent the succeeding six years of his life in that city. He supplemented his public-school course by study in a commercial college, after his return from the war. In the opening year of hostilities between the north and the south he espoused the cause of the Union, enlisting as a member of Company B, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, with which he served for three years and seven days, holding the rank of corporal. He was in the battles of Stewart Farm, Cash River and a number of other engagements.

When peace had crowned the Union arms Albert A. Sedgley received an honorable discharge and after the war turned his attention to railroading, remaining in the train service for nineteen years, acting as conductor during the greater part of that time. Subsequently he went to Los Angeles, California, where he resided for five years and during two years of that time conducted a dairy. In 1892 he returned to Geneseo where for five years he worked at the carpenter's trade and then purchased his present beautiful farm of thirty acres on section 17, Geneseo township, where he is now comfortably situated in life. In addition to his home place he is financially interested in business enterprises of the county, being a stockholder in the First National Bank of Geneseo, and one of the organizers and now president of the Edford Star Telephone Company.

On the 17th of November, 1885, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sedgley and Miss Mary E. Scott, who died in 1894, leaving a son Sherman Levi, who is now a resident of Colfax, Illinois. On the 17th of April, 1901, Mr. Sedgley was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Julia Ann Beck, the widow of Elias Beck and a daughter of Eli and Eleanor (Jackson) Allen. Mrs. Julia A. Sedgley was born in Ohio, while her father was a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Indiana. Her paternal grandfather, Solomon Allen, was likewise a native of the Keystone state and devoted his life to farming. Unto him and his wife, Mrs. Sarah Allen, there were born a son and two daughters. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Sedgley were William and Julia (Cooley) Jackson. The former was born near Brookville, Indiana, and followed the occupation of farming to provide for his family, which numbered eight children. Both he and his wife died in Indiana at an old age. Mr. and Mrs. Eli Allen, the parents of Mrs. Sedgley, removed to Iowa, settling on a farm near Ottumwa. There they lived for a time but afterward sold that property and took up their abode in the city, where Mrs. Sedgley was reared to womanhood. Her father is deceased but her mother is still living in her eighty-ninth year. Their family numbered fourteen children, nine sons and five daughters: Solomon; William J.; Ephraim Thomas; Sarah Charlotte Helen; Julia A.; James Edward; Mary Ellen, the widow of Benjamin Huddleston; Harriet Jane, who died in early childhood; Charles Franklin; David Eli; Warren Olondo; Samuel Siegel; Matilda Josephine, the wife of Daniel Kinney; and Theodore Hercules. Of this family William J., Ephraim Thomas and James Edward Allen, served as soldiers of the Civil war.

In his political views Mr Sedgley is a republican, giving stanch allegiance to the party, for he believes its principles are most conducive to good government. He has served as a school director for several terms, and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. That he is prominent and popular in E. J. Jenkins Post, No. 452, G. A. R., is indicated in the fact that he has held various offices in the organization and is a past commander. His religious faith is that of the Unitarian church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist church and both are highly esteemed in this community.

---

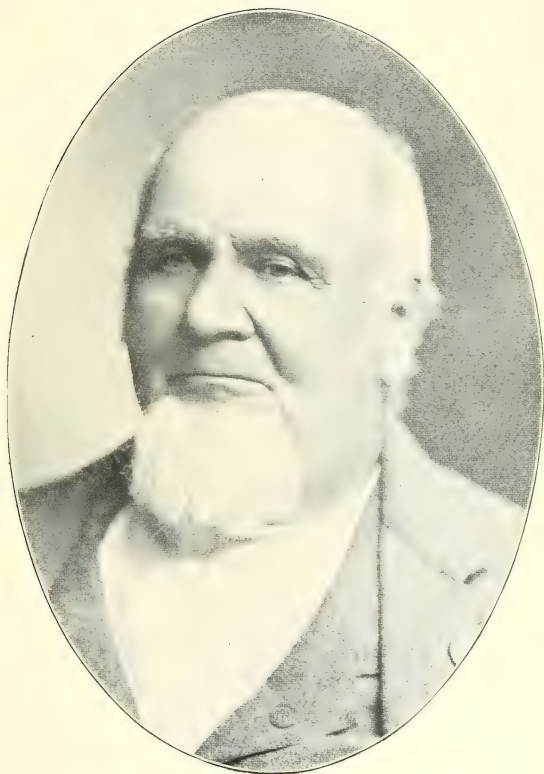
### JAMES S. HADSALL.

For more than half a century James S. Hadsall has been identified with the history of Burns township and is now numbered among its most honored and respected citizens, not only by reason of his age but also for the character of his life and those things which he has accomplished in the world of business. He is now living practically retired, but in the past farming, building and carpentering interests in this section of the state profited by his ability, good judgment and enterprise.

He was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, September 26, 1822, and is descended from an English family, some of whose members crossed the Atlantic at an early day and were numbered among the first settlers of the Wyoming valley. They secured a large tract of land at the mouth of Sutton's creek, five miles up the Susquehanna river from the head of the Wyoming valley. There the great-grandfather of Mr. Hadsall, together with his negro servant, was killed by Indians while hoeing corn in 1776, the day before the Wyoming massacre. His brothers, Stephen and John Hadsall, were serving in the Colonial army and were then located at Wyoming, but their lives were spared by reprieve. To the former was given the task of carrying to Connecticut the keg of paint which was used to paint the reprieved prisoners every morning.

At the time of the massacre Edward Hadsall, the grandfather of James S. Hadsall, by a fortunate circumstance was in New England, whither he had gone to procure cattle, but subsequently he returned to the original Hadsall farm at the mouth of Sutton's creek, making it his home until 1805, when he sold his property and with other members of the family removed to Martinsville, Ohio. He located just across the river from Wheeling and there passed the remainder of his life. He was twice married and reared a large family. By his first union he had three sons: James, Edward and Benjamin. The last named, a physician by profession, came west at an early day and built the first tavern in Rock Island, Illinois, at which place he later erected a hotel. He resided in that city until after the death of his wife, when he removed to California and there passed away.

James Hadsall, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut, March 20, 1787, and spent his youth in the Wyoming valley. When his father removed to Ohio, he remained in Pennsylvania, being engaged in farming in Luzerne



J. S. HADSALL



county. When about twenty-three years of age, on February 4, 1810, he wedded Miss Elizabeth Smith, who was born in Connecticut, December 29, 1795. For seventy-five years they traveled life's highway together and both died in 1885. All of their fourteen children were born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. Of these the two eldest died in infancy and Edward, born January 26, 1813, married Jane Diamond, of Luzerne county, and in 1856 removed to Michigan, where he still resides.

Reared in the county of his birth, James S. Hadsall attended the public school near his home and subsequently learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1896. In 1852 he came to Henry county, Illinois, for the first time, entering the southwest quarter of section 34, Burns township, but he did not locate here permanently until 1856, spending the four intervening years in Pennsylvania. In 1857 the year following his return, while he was erecting buildings upon his property, he discovered a coal bank on the southern part of his farm. He opened the vein at that time and worked it intermittently for the next thirty years, at one time operating three mines to their full extent, but of recent years has done little along that line, although the whole farm is underlaid with coal, some of which is in very deep veins. In connection with his mining interests and his farming he has engaged in carpentering and contracting, doing a great deal of building in Burns and adjoining townships, as well as in Nebraska and Iowa, and building many of the bridges in this and other localities. This was his principal occupation through the summer months, during which time he employed from four to eight men. He also thoroughly improved the home farm, upon which several new buildings have been erected recently, and at one time he owned a tract of land in Saunders county, Nebraska, which he later gave to his daughter.

On the 13th of January, 1848, Mr. Hadsall wedded Miss Malinda Brace, the ceremony being performed in New Troy, now Wyoming, Pennsylvania. Her parents, William and Anna (Munson) Brace, were natives of New York state. Unto the couple were born five children, as follows: Medora, who died in infancy; Anna E., who is the wife of Edgar Kimerling, of Nebraska; Henry, who was born September 23, 1855, and was killed by falling from a building December 3, 1882; one who died in infancy; and Smith, who is engaged in farming in Burns township. He was born September 12, 1860, and married Miss Julia Zeigler, of Kewanee.

In the spring of 1864 Mr. Hadsall enlisted at Chicago in the Union army for service in the war of the Rebellion and was honorably discharged in the fall of the same year. Now he belongs to the Grand Army post and is also connected with the Masonic fraternity. He cast his first presidential ballot for Henry Clay and was a staunch supporter of the whig party until its dissolution, when he allied himself with the republican party, with which he has been since identified. Since coming to Henry county he has taken a deep interest in public affairs and has frequently been honored by the people by being chosen to different offices. For long periods he served as school director and commissioner of the highways, for sixteen years acted as justice of the peace, to which position he was elected first in 1860 and then refused to serve longer, and for twenty-two years he was postmaster at Hawley. He was appointed to that office June 16,

1879, and his administration of his duties was marked by the same carefulness and system that characterized his work in other fields.

Until 1906 Mr. Hadsall was still active in the work of his farm and in supervising his other interests, but since then he has not been able to accomplish much and has rented his land to his granddaughter's husband, William R. Kramer. Yet he is in fairly good health, save for being a sufferer from rheumatism, by which he was confined to the house during the past year, and at the venerable age of eighty-nine years still has a bright outlook on life. His wife is also very active, despite the fact that she is now in her eighty-third year. Few men have led a more active life, and few have directed their energies so well or for so long a period in channels that have brought them a gratifying measure of prosperity, and at the same time the unqualified esteem of a large circle of friends. He is a man who has made the most of each opportunity, but also one who has not swerved from the principles of upright manhood.

---

#### ALLAN BYRON CADY.

Allan Byron Cady, secretary and treasurer of the North Side Cemetery Association of Geneseo, was born about a mile and a quarter northeast of the city on the old homestead of the Cady family, July 8, 1845. His ancestors were among the early settlers of New England. His grandfather, John Cady, removed from Connecticut to Genesee county, New York, carrying with him a red handkerchief, which was all he possessed. He began life there literally empty handed, but gradually worked his way upward. He married Anna Johns, who came from Wales when twelve years of age, and both lived to advanced years. The death of Mrs. Cady occurred in Geneseo, after which her remains were taken back to Genesee county, New York, for burial. In their family were nine sons and a daughter: Dwight, Hiram, Austin, Boardman, Miles, Silas, John, Thomas, Philo and Emily, who married Elijah Burt.

Hiram Cady, the father of A. B. Cady, was a native of the Empire state and devoted his life to farming. In the fall of 1837 he removed from Genesee county, New York, to Illinois, settling on a tract of land a mile and a quarter east of the Geneseo postoffice, which his father had entered in 1836. The place comprised about four hundred and eighty acres; and the land was wild prairie, not a furrow having been turned nor an improvement made thereon. At that time Hiram Cady was twenty-one years of age. With resolute purpose he bent his energies to the task of cultivating the fields and improved one hundred and sixty acres of the land. He had also added thirty-one acres to the tract. In his latter years he retired from active life, and removed to Geneseo, where he passed away March 15, 1888, at the age of seventy-four years. In early manhood he wedded Mary Bartlett, also a native of New York, and a daughter of Cromwell K. and Catharine (Kess) Bartlett. Her father was born in the state of New York and for some years engaged in teaching, while later he followed farming. His wife was a native of the Mohawk valley, and they were among the colonists who settled Geneseo, but Mr. Bartlett died soon after their ar-



MRS. J. S. HADSALL



rival in Henry county. His widow survived him for a long period and lived to be about ninety-four years of age. In their family were eight children, who reached maturity: William; Mary, who became Mrs. Cady; Hiram; Amanda, the wife of Carl Taylor; Lucinda, the wife of William Austin; Julia, who married Silas Cady; George; and Martha, the wife of Horace Smith. Mrs. Cady, the second of that family, was but twelve years of age when she accompanied her parents on their removal to Henry county, Illinois. They made the trip with wagon and horses, and after their arrival the men of the party built their log cabins, chinking the spaces between the logs with mud and prairie hay, while the roofs were made of canvas. They found, however, that the rooms were cold when thus covered, and they later roofed with "shakes," which were thinly split but were thicker than the regular shingle. Amid such pioneer surroundings Mrs. Cady spent her girlhood days. She survived her husband for three years, passing away July 19, 1891, while on a visit in Tallapoosa, Georgia. Her remains were then brought back to Geneseo and were buried in the North Side cemetery. She was then sixty-seven years of age, her birth having occurred March 8, 1824. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cady were zealous members of the Congregational church, and he was an earnest champion of the cause of education. He served as school director and in other township offices and gave a portion of his orchard as the site for a schoolhouse. Unto him and his wife were born three children who reached mature years: Allan B., Monroe Carroll and Nellie Catharine, the last named being the wife of Mark A. Green, of Tallapoosa, Georgia.

Allan B. Cady has lived in Henry county throughout his entire life. Being reared upon his father's farm he attended the district schools, the Geneseo Seminary and the Commercial School of Davenport. After he had reached adult age his father gave him fifteen and a half acres of land and, purchasing forty acres additional, he began farming. Each year thereafter he carefully plowed his land, planted the seed and cultivated his crops, gathering in the autumn rich harvests. After owning the tract for a few years he sold his original place of fifty-five and a half acres and then bought eighty acres south of the town, adding to this from time to time until he was the owner of two hundred and eighty-six acres, constituting one of the valuable and productive farms of the county. He carefully, systematically and successfully carried on general farming until 1900, when he retired and removed to Geneseo, where he built a good house, that he now occupies. He is still the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, and this returns to him a substantial income, which enables him to enjoy many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

On the 30th of October, 1871, Mr. Cady was married to Miss Ella J. French, a daughter of Oliver and Jane (French) French. Mrs. Cady was born in Michigan, while her parents were natives of Coventry, Connecticut. They lived for many years in Henry county, Illinois, and when called to their final rest their graves were made in Oakwood cemetery. They had two children: Sarah, who became the wife of Levi Hoit, and Mrs. Cady. The paternal grandfather was Eleazer French, a native of Connecticut and of English descent. He was a shoemaker by trade and followed that pursuit throughout the greater part of

his life. He married Fannie Woodard, and died in Connecticut, when more than eighty years of age, while his wife also reached an old age. They had four sons and three daughters: Eleazer; Oliver; Daniel; Nathaniel; Ann, who became the wife of Henry Gooding; Mary, who married Charles Lee; and Abbie, the wife of Rolland Clark. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Cady was Aaron French, who engaged in driving a stage from Avon to Hartford, Connecticut, but died in early manhood. His wife, Mrs. Avis French, lived to an old age. They were the parents of two sons and four daughters, five of whom reached mature years, namely: Mrs. Jane K. French, the mother of Mrs. Cady; Adelia, who married William Clark; Juliette, the wife of Ephraim Woodford; John R.; and Aaron.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cady was blessed with two sons: Guy M., and Walter F., whose history is given below. The parents are members of the Congregational church, and their fidelity to its teachings has developed in them a character worthy of the highest esteem and regard. In his political views Mr. Cady is republican and is well known in Geneseo as the secretary and treasurer of the North Side Cemetery Association, which position he has filled since 1888. His business record has been characterized by a progressive spirit, by close application and undaunted energy, and the success which he has enjoyed is attributable entirely to his own labors.

---

#### GUY M. CADY.

Guy M. Cady, conducting a profitable business as a general farmer and breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle, is living on section 28, Geneseo township, where he has one hundred and sixty-six acres of land that partly extends onto section 29. His entire life has been devoted to general agricultural pursuits, and he purchased his present farm in 1894, since which time he has continuously made it his home. It presents a neat and attractive appearance, indicating the enterprise of the owner, whose methods are practical and progressive.

Mr. Cady was born in Geneseo township, east of the city of Geneseo, April 24, 1873, and is the son of Allan B. and Ella J. (French) Cady, who are now living on East Main street in Geneseo and are mentioned in the sketch preceding. They had but two children, the younger son being Walter F. Cady, who also lives in Geneseo township.

In his youthful days Guy M. Cady divided his time between the work of the fields, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. He was provided with good educational advantages and completed his course by graduation from the high school at Geneseo with the class of 1893. At twenty-one years of age he began the cultivation of the farm upon which he now resides, and in 1894 he purchased the property and has since owned, occupied and cultivated it. He has greatly improved the place by erecting thereon all of the buildings, with the exception of the house, and this he has rebuilt and remodeled. In commodious barns and outbuildings there is ample shelter furnished to grain and stock, while well maintained fences divide the place into

fields of convenient size. Modern farm machinery is used in planting, cultivating and gathering the crops, and everything about the place indicates the progressive spirit of the owner.

On the 3d of May, 1899, in the city of Geneseo occurred the marriage of Mr. Cady and Miss Albertina Johnson, who was born in Atkinson township and is a daughter of Gunner and Elna Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, in which country they were reared and married. After coming to the new world they established their home in Henry county, and the father died in Geneseo, but the mother is still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cady have been born five children: Leala, who was born December 2, 1900; Ima, born May 18, 1902; Burton, born January 31, 1904; Florence, June 3, 1906; and Ralph, August 2, 1908.

Mr. Cady was reared in the faith of the republican party but is now independent in politics, preferring to exercise his right of franchise as his judgment dictates. He has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, while he and his wife belong to the Congregational church. His life is upright and honorable, his many good qualities winning for him the high regard of all who know him.

---

#### WALTER F. CADY.

Walter F. Cady is one of the enterprising young farmers of Henry county, living on his father's farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which is situated on section 28, Geneseo township. He was born January 9, 1875, about a mile east of Geneseo and is a son of Allan Byron and Ella Jane (French) Cady. He was about a year old when his parents removed to what is now the old homestead farm, which had been purchased the previous fall, and here Walter F. Cady has resided continuously since. He was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, as he assisted his father in the cultivation and improvement of the fields. He acquired his education in the public schools of Geneseo, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high school student and was graduated with the class of 1894. In the eleven years his attendance was so regular that the record has rarely been equaled. He failed to attend a session less than a dozen times in the entire period in which he was pursuing his education. He remained with his father until he was twenty-one years of age and then began farming on his own account by renting the old home place. He won a companion and helpmate for life's journey in his marriage, on the 18th of March, 1897, to Miss Myrtle Lamont, of Prophetstown, Illinois, who was born in Yorktown township, Henry county, October 22, 1875, and is a daughter of Jesse L. and Mary J. (Pritchard) Lamont. Her education was acquired in the district schools and in the city schools of Geneseo, and by her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Neva M., who was born December 1, 1900, and has completed the second grade work in the schools,

never having missed a half day thus far; Famah L., born June 23, 1904; Dale L., born September 26, 1905; and Jessie C., October 7, 1908.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Cady brought his bride to the home farm. He has met with varied success in the cultivation of the place, for there have been seasons when the crops were poor. However, he is persevering and energetic, and these qualities eventually win in the end. In connection with the tilling of the soil he is engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred Chester White hogs, for which he finds a ready sale on the market. In politics he is a republican where national questions and issues are involved but casts an independent local ballot. He and his wife are members of the First Congregational church and it its work take an active and helpful interest, Mr. Cady serving as assistant superintendent of the Sunday school and as an usher of the church. He is a worthy representative of a family long and prominently known in this county.

---

### J. WOLFRED OKERSTROM.

J. Wolfred Okerstrom gives his attention to one hundred and thirty-one acres of land in Weller township, which he rents. As the name indicates, he is of Swedish birth and parentage, born in Alfta, Soken, Helsingland, October 5, 1878. The father, Jonas Okerstrom, was born in Ofvanoker, Soken, Helsingland, Sweden, and is a watchmaker by trade. He was married in that country to Miss Cathrine Wansburg, who was born in Soderala, Soken, Helsingland, April 4, 1856. They emigrated to the new world in 1882, arriving in Bishop Hill on the 3d of July of that year. The father opened a jewelry establishment in this city, where he did a general retail and repair business. He continued his business in Bishop Hill until 1894, when he removed to Cambridge and spent four years, subsequent to which time he went west, locating in Mendon, Kearney county, Nebraska, where he opened a similar establishment and is still engaged in business, in which he is meeting with excellent success.

J. Wolfred Okerstrom was less than four years of age when brought to America by his parents, so that he was practically reared in Henry county and acquired his education in the public schools of this district. When he started out on his own account he worked at farm labor in Weller township for six years and at the age of twenty found employment in the lumberyard of Reynold Johnson, with whom he remained five years. Farm life, however, seemed to offer more inducement to him and when he found himself able to engage in business independently he leased eighty acres of land in Weller township, three and a half miles northwest of Bishop Hill, making his home thereon for three years. He then removed to another farm of ninety acres and made his home there for one year. On the 1st of March, 1909, he sought another location and took up his abode on one hundred and thirty-one acres in Weller township. He planted his seeds in due season and in the summer and fall of that year harvested good crops.

Mr. Okerstrom was married February 26, 1902, in Bishop Hill, to Miss Hilda E. Peterson, a daughter of Charles M. Peterson, a retired farmer of

Bishop Hill. Their home has been blessed with three interesting children, two daughters and a son: Lenore G., who at the age of six years is attending the district school; Kathryn H., two years of age; and Karl J., nine months old.

A republican in politics he always votes for republican candidates at presidential elections but at local elections does not bind himself to party ties. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Bishop Hill, in which he held the office of clerk two years, while for a similar period he acted as escort. He is numbered among the representative Swedish-American citizens of Henry county, possessing the characteristics of energy, honesty and perseverance, so strong in the people of that race.

---

### GEORGE GARLAND, SR.

Among the successful agriculturists of the older generation in Colona township, whose well tilled fields bespeak the careful methods and good management of the owner, is George Garland, Sr. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Perry county, March 15, 1837, his parents being Samuel and Mary Ann Garland, both of German ancestry, although born in the Keystone state. In 1851 they moved their family to Illinois, locating in Peoria county, where they remained for about fifteen years, and the father followed the occupation of farming. From that county they removed to Marshall county, Illinois, where they lived for a few years and then went to Indiana and later to Nebraska, where the father's death occurred. His first wife had died in Marshall county, but before he made his last move he married again. Of this first union seven children were born: Mary, Jane, Caroline, Elizabeth, Hannah, William and George. All are living except Jane and Elizabeth.

George Garland was reared under the parental roof and remained at home until after the death of his mother. He received his education in the public schools of the township, and obtained his practical experience for the responsibilities of life upon the farm, for from the time he was able to handle a plow he assisted in the work that was carried on there. When he started to make his own way in the world he found employment in a livery barn in Henry, Marshall county, and after about two years spent there went to Rock Island, where he worked for another two years. Then he engaged in agricultural pursuits, working for James Glenn, of Colona township, for eleven dollars a month and board. His employer enjoyed the distinction of having been the first man to plow a furrow in this county, and the plow which performed that work is now on exhibition in the courthouse. While he was in the employ of Mr. Glenn during the greater part of three years, but during the threshing season he was employed by William Killing to assist in operating a thresher and in the winter months he hauled coal, in this way eking out the meager wage he received in the summer. Later he worked for George Sibley, a farmer of Colona township, from whom he received fifteen dollars a month, the highest pay he ever got for farm labor. While he was still toiling for Mr. Sibley, he married, shortly after rented a tract of land and later bought the place on which he lives today, for he had

saved money and was able to purchase eighty acres. While this is not one of the largest in its locality, it is certainly one of the richest, is well improved and maintained under a high state of cultivation so that it renders large returns for the time and thought spent in tilling it. Mr. Garland no longer actively participates in the actual work of operation, but the ideas which he fostered and the methods which he initiated have been carried out by his son George. In addition to purely agricultural interests, they have given considerable attention to raising and feeding hogs, finding this a most profitable adjunct to their business.

In 1864 Mr. Garland wedded Miss Catherine Hunt, a daughter of Anthony and Catherine Hunt, of Colona township, to which Mr. Hunt came with the early pioneers. All of the five children born to the couple are living. They are Clarence A., who has married and is a farmer of Colona township; John, who has married and is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Rock Island county; George, who operates the home place; Minnie, who is the wife of William Williams, a farmer of Colona township; and Mabel, who married Hugh McGraw, of Western township. Mrs. Garland passed away in December, 1899. George was married, January 21, 1904, to Miss Clara Hollins, a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Morgan) Hollins, of Colona township.

Mr. Garland has always been a staunch believer in the principles of the republican party, but while ever interested in public matters could never be persuaded to accept any office within the gift of the people. Nevertheless he is a man to whose support the citizens would quickly flock, for his career has been distinguished by acts of a strong character, evincing the sterling integrity of his thoughts and deeds, and he enjoys the respect and confidence of all who have come in contact with him.

---

#### ALBERT F. JOHNSON.

Albert F. Johnson is well known as a representative of the business public of Cambridge as a member of the firm of Johnson & Record, lumber dealers, and also as the manager of the Citizens Mutual Telephone Company. He is, moreover, numbered among the public-spirited citizens whose devotion to the general good has been manifest in many tangible ways. He was born in Andover on the 12th of July, 1867, and is one of eight children, whose parents, Charles E. and Christine Johnson, were natives of Sweden. The father was a carpenter by trade and after following that pursuit in early manhood turned his attention to farming. With the hope of bettering his financial condition in the new world, he came to America in 1866 and settled in Cambridge, purchasing a farm of fifty-six acres in Andover township, to which he afterward added thirty acres. Upon that farm he reared his family and made his home for many years, but has lived in the town for six of seven years, enjoying now in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. His wife passed away at the age of sixty-seven years in the faith of the Lutheran church, to which Mr. Johnson also belongs. Their family numbered four sons and four daughters: John S.;

Charles A.; Huldah H., the wife of Charles Buck; Albert F.; Frederick; Tillie, the wife of William O'Neill; Norine; and one who died in infancy.

Albert F. Johnson spent his youth in the usual manner of farm lads, the routine work of the fields and the duties of the schoolroom largely occupying his time and attention. He continued under the parental roof until he had reached adult age, after which he worked by the month as a farm hand for a year, but, thinking to find other pursuits more congenial and profitable, he then learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for about seven years. In 1894 he became connected with the lumber business as a partner of Peter S. Peterson, who afterward sold his interests to A. J. Record, and since 1895 the firm has been Johnson & Record. They conduct an extensive business, carrying a large line of all kinds of lumber and builders' supplies, and their patronage makes their business one of substantial proportions. In addition to his interests in the lumberyard Mr. Johnson has acted as manager of the Citizens Mutual Telephone Company for six years and puts forth effective effort to give the patrons of the line satisfactory service.

On the 16th of July, 1891, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Minnie A. Swanson, who was born on the 8th of July, 1867, in Sweden, where her parents, Charles D. and Helen B. Swanson, still live. She is one of a family of six children, two sons and four daughters, namely: C. Otto; John L.; Augusta C., the wife of John Grann; Minnie A., now Mrs. Johnson; Anna M., the wife of Mr. Hanson; and Emma C., who died in early childhood. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born five children: Mamie, Jessie, Max, Francis and Natalia.

The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church and are highly esteemed in the community, where the hospitality of the best homes is freely extended them. Mr. Johnson belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and is a thirty-second degree Mason, holding membership in Peoria Consistory, S. P. R. S. He also belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., and to the Mystic Workers, No. 54, in which he has been treasurer since the organization of the lodge. His political endorsement has been continuously given to the republican party, since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and he is now serving as a member of the village board of trustees, in which connection he is doing effective work to further the welfare of the community. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of the county.

---

#### LEVI WILSON HOIT.

Among those men who, while active factors in the world's work, contributed to the growth and development of Geneseo and Henry county was Levi Wilson Hoyt, whose life record began in Canaan, Grafton county, New Hampshire, November 15, 1827. His parents, Bartlett and Prudence (Wilson) Hoyt, were also natives of Canaan, and unto them were born two sons, but the younger Nathan W., died when only eighteen months old. The paternal grandfather

was John Hoit, also a native of Canaan, New Hampshire. He was descended from the old Puritan stock that settled in New England. The first of the name of whom we have record was John Hoit, who was one of the founders of the town of Salisbury, Massachusetts. He was born in England in 1610 and, crossing the Atlantic to America, became one of those who aided in planting the seeds of civilization on the soil of the new world. When the country became involved in war with England John Hoit, the grandfather, espoused the cause of the colonists and fought for independence. He married Miss Hannah Rogers, also a native of New Hampshire.

The maternal grandfather of Levi W. Hoit was Robert Wilson, who was born in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, in January, 1767, and died in April, 1847, when eighty years of age. His entire life had been devoted to general agricultural pursuits. He was twice married and his first wife was the first person buried in the Canaan (New Hampshire) cemetery. Robert Wilson was the son of Captain Nathaniel Wilson, who won his title by valorous service in the war for independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett Hoit, the parents of Levi W. Hoit, removed from New England to Henry county, Illinois, and became farming people of Edford township where they spent their remaining days. They were closely associated with the early development of this part of the state and were especially well known in connection with agricultural life. The death of Bartlett Hoit occurred November 3, 1864, when he was sixty-six years of age, while his wife passed away June 1, 1875, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Levi Wilson Hoit was a carpenter and carriage-maker in the east, working with his father. Seeking the opportunities of the growing west, he made his way to Henry county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres lying in Edford township. This he improved from the raw prairie, transforming it into highly cultivated fields, and as time passed and he prospered in his undertakings, he purchased much other property. At his death there were about four hundred acres in the farm. He had lived upon the farm for a quarter of a century and about 1881 he removed to Geneseo where he erected a fine home at the corner of Maine and Henry streets. There he lived until his death. He always kept up his interest in the farm, giving to it his general supervision and he was, moreover, a director in the First National Bank. He was always a busy man, for idleness and indolence were utterly foreign to his nature, and even after he retired from the farm he occupied his time with business or other interests. While living in Edford township he served as supervisor for many years and community affairs always found in him a stalwart champion if he felt that a measure or movement instituted was one which would promote the general development and progress.

On the 22d of May, 1856, Mr. Hoit was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. French, a daughter of Oliver B. and Jane K. (French) French. The son of that marriage, Otis W. Hoit, married Miss Henrietta M. P. Schroeder, and they have one son, Maurice Elon Hoit. Mrs. Levi W. Hoit was born in North Coventry, Connecticut, November 1, 1836. Her parents were natives of Tolland county, Connecticut, and were early settlers of Henry county, Illinois, tak-

ing up their abode in Geneseo township east of the town. In this locality they spent their remaining days and as people of the highest respectability were widely and favorably known. They had two sons and two daughters: Mrs. Sarah E. Hoit; Ella Jane, the wife of Allan B. Cady, of Geneseo; and two sons who died infancy. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Hoit was Eleazer French, a native of Connecticut and a shoemaker by trade. He wedded Fannie Woodward and they lived to old age, rearing a large family of children, namely: Eleazer; Oliver B.; John; Ann; Nathaniel; Abbie and Daniel. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Levi W. Hoit was Aaron French, who was born in Connecticut, and at the time of his death was the owner of the line of stages between Hartford, Connecticut, and Albany, New York. He passed away at the comparatively early age of thirty-five years, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Avis Dart, lived to advanced age. They were the parents of five children: Jane K., Adelia, John R., Aaron and Juliet.

The death of Mr. Hoit occurred May 1, 1892, when he was sixty-four years of age. He and his wife attended the Congregational church, and though he was a member of no religious denomination he was a friend to all and always advocated that which is right and just between the individual and his fellow-man. In his business transactions he was thoroughly reliable and his enterprise won him success which was most creditable and desirable. He possessed too, many social qualities which endeared him to those with whom he came in contact and his memory is yet treasured by those who knew him. Mrs. Hoit still survives and makes her home in Geneseo. She is in comfortable financial circumstances, and throughout her entire life she has displayed sterling traits of heart and mind which have brought to her warm regard.

---

#### ROBERT CALFE MORSE.

Robert Calfe Morse, who since 1900 has engaged in the practice of law at Kewanee, was born near Tremont, Tazewell county, Illinois, September 11, 1859, his parents being Enoch Garrish and Elizabeth (Edes) Morse, the former a farmer by occupation. The father came from New Hampshire to Illinois in the fall of 1835, and settled near Tremont, where he lived until his death in 1896. The mother was born near Tremont, March 12, 1836, and still lives in that village.

While spending his early life in his boyhood home Robert C. Morse attended the country schools and also the village school of Tremont, while later he was a pupil in Knox Academy and College at Galesburg, completing his course there by graduation in 1884, when he received the degree of A. B. He afterward entered the Yale Divinity school at New Haven, Connecticut, pursuing a course in theology, and when he had devoted three years to that study he was graduated from Yale, in 1887, with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. For three years he engaged in preaching in the Congregational church, spending two years of that time at Westmoreland, Pottawatomie county, Kansas, and one year in Fairfield, Clay county, Nebraska. He afterward went to Iowa City, Iowa, and

was pastor of a Unitarian church for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period he took up the study of law in the state university of Iowa, where he spent a year and received the Bachelor of Law degree. He completed a course in the Harvard Law School in the spring of 1893 and at that time passed the examination required for admission to the Illinois bar. Immediately afterward he located in Chicago, where he practiced until the fall of 1895 when, on account of his wife's health, he removed to Phoenix, Arizona, where he spent four years.

In January, 1900, Mr. Morse returned to Illinois and, settling in Kewanee, became identified with the legal profession of this city. He has since given his attention to general practice and has been connected with much important litigation tried in the courts of the circuit. In January, 1909, he formed a partnership with Nicholas J. Demerath under the firm name of Morse & Demerath, and they now represent a number of the leading corporations of this locality. Mr. Morse has won for himself very favorable comment for the careful and systematic methods which he has followed. He has strong powers of concentration and application, and his retentive mind has often excited the surprise of his professional colleagues. As an orator he stands high, especially in the discussion of legal matters before the court, where his comprehensive knowledge of the law is manifest, and his application of legal principles demonstrates the wide range of his professional acquirement. The utmost care and precision characterizes his preparation of a case and has made him one of the most successful attorneys in Kewanee.

On the 31st of July, 1889, Mr. Morse was united in marriage with Marietta Lay, a daughter of Hiram T. Lay, and unto them have been born three children, Robert Lay, Martha Elizabeth and Sidney Gilbert. The parents are members of the Congregational church and are widely known in the social circles of the city, having many warm friends here. Mr. Morse is active in the public life of the community and for four years served as city attorney. Gifted by nature with strong mentality and using his opportunities to good advantage he has made steady progress in the profession of the law, and his course at the same time commends him to the confidence and good will of his fellow townsmen.

---

### HENRY H. LAY.

Henry H. Lay occupies a prominent position in the commercial circles of Kewanee as a partner in the Lyman-Lay Company. He is one of the most progressive of the younger business men of the city. His birth here occurred July 20, 1876, his parents being Hiram T. and Martha (Morrill) Lay. He is indebted to the public-school system for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed and following his graduation from the high school entered Morgan Park Academy and was graduated therefrom in 1895. He is also a Harvard man, having completed a four years' course within the classic halls of that institution in 1899. Returning to Kewanee, he entered as clerk in the general store of Lay & Lyman and was admitted in January, 1905, member of the Lyman-

Lay Company, as a junior partner and has since taken active part in the management and control of this leading commercial enterprise of his native city. He is also active in matters of public concern, being a member of the library board and also a member of the Congregational church.

---

### MARTIN LUTHER.

Martin Luther has been a resident of Geneseo for eighteen years and has been so closely and prominently connected with educational and moral interests of the town during this period that no history of the community would be complete without the record of his career. It is a widely acknowledged fact that the most important work to which a man can direct his energies is that of teaching, whether it be from the pulpit, from the lecture platform, or from the school-room. Its primary object is ever the same—the development of one's latent powers that the duties of life may be bravely met and well performed. It is to the work of instructing the young that Martin Luther has devoted his time, energies and thought with good results and that his record as a teacher was altogether satisfactory is indicated in the fact that in 1892 he was elected county superintendent of schools and is now serving the third year of the fourth term in that position of responsibility.

Professor Luther was born in Waukegan, Illinois, December 27, 1849, and is a son of John J. and Mary Ursula (Fehlman) Luther, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume in connection with the history of Clinton F. Luther. Martin Luther was twelve years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Lake county to Henry county, Illinois, and upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood. His early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by study in the Northwestern College of Naperville, Illinois, and at the age of eighteen years he began teaching. He is still connected with school work, although in the meantime he engaged in farming for two years. He was first connected as a teacher with the district schools but afterward was chosen principal of the public schools at Paton, Iowa. Subsequently he became principal of the north side public school of Geneseo, where he remained for two years, after which he filled out the unexpired term of J. B. Russell as county superintendent of schools. He has since been chosen to the office by popular suffrage for four successive terms and has now entered upon the third year of the fourth term. His frequent reelection indicates most clearly the confidence reposed in him and the excellent service which he is rendering in connection with the cause of public education.

On the 27th of December, 1877, Mr. Luther was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Louisa Ringel, a daughter of John and Georgianna Matilda Frederika (Voigt) Ringel. Mrs. Luther was born in Peoria, Illinois, but her parents were natives of Germany and were still single on coming to America. They settled in the state of New York and were married there. In 1855 they removed westward to Illinois and took up their abode in Peoria, where Mr. Ringel engaged in broom-making for a time, while subsequently he turned his attention to farming

in that locality. In 1867 he came to Henry county, taking up his abode in York township, where both he and his wife died. In his native land he had served as a soldier in the regular army. His death occurred in 1901 when he was more than seventy-nine years of age and his wife died in 1907 at the age of seventy-seven years. They were members of the United Evangelical church. Their family numbered eight children: Henry J.; Mary, the wife of John W. Brown; Augusta L., now Mrs. Luther; Wilhelmina, the wife of Reuben Ott; John, who died at the age of eighteen years; William F.; Rebecca, the wife of George W. Urban; and Emma, who died at the age of fourteen years.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Luther was blessed with four children: Bernice May, the eldest, is the wife of Anderson Berriman Gee and they reside in Madison, New Jersey; Jessie Irene, Edward Le Roy and Mary Georgiana are at home, the family residence being on College avenue.

Professor and Mrs. Luther are members of the United Evangelical church and their influence is always on the side of progress, improvement and advancement. Mr. Luther belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He served as police magistrate in Paton, Iowa, and for seven years was a member of the board of supervisors in this county from York township, before elected to his present position as county superintendent of schools. He has always held to a high standard in educational work both as a teacher and county superintendent of schools his labors have been directly beneficial in promoting the intellectual progress of the community.

---

### BERNHARD L. DEEM.

Among the many qualities which have been conspicuous in advancing Bernhard L. Deem to the esteemed position he holds in the agricultural community of Colona township, are an indefatigable industry and a high ideal of honor and trustworthiness. He has attained a pronounced success in the pursuits to which he has devoted his attention and has played no inconsiderable part in the political life of the township.

He was born in New York city, February 9, 1854, a son of Jacob L. and Mary A. (Schernann) Deem. The parents were both natives of Germany, but came to the United States as young people, and in New York became acquainted and were married. In that city the father followed the trade of a drapery manufacturer, until 1858, when he came to Colona township and bought the southeast quarter of section 36, township 18, range 1, east of the fourth principal meridian. There he engaged in agriculture, while he also opened a coal bank that was situated upon his place. In the course of years he sold this, which he and his brother Louis, with whom he had come west, had operated, and devoted himself entirely to farming. During the Civil war, the latter enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving throughout the war, but as he was a carpenter he was frequently detailed to follow his trade; in the building of bridges and other army necessities. After the culmination

of hostilities, when he was discharged from the service and returned to Illinois, Jacob Deem joined him in the prosecution of his carpentry and millwright business, until advancing age incapacitated him for active work. He was a democrat in his political views and was active in party affairs. For many years he was the Colona township delegate to the democratic county central committee and he filled the offices of road commissioner and assessor for a number of years. For another long period he was the Colona township member of the county board of supervisors, for he was widely recognized as a man who was deeply interested in public improvements. His judgment was always rendered in accordance with what he believed to be right and just, and many times he was called upon to act as administrator of estates. Whatever his work or his occupation, he was ever found to be a man of high standing and sterling integrity, so that when his death occurred, January 23, 1898, he was mourned as most noble citizen. His widow still survives and is in fairly good health, despite the fact that March 16, 1909, she celebrated the seventy-ninth anniversary of her birth.

Jacob Deem and his wife were the parents of nine children. Of these, Bernhard L., the subject of this sketch, is the eldest; Mary L., became the wife of George W. Taylor, of Burlington, Iowa; Matthew L., who was a farmer of Colona township, died April 17, 1893; Henry H., is married and lives in Chicago; Margaret K., is the wife of Henry Gottsche, of Hanna township; Frank J., is married and resides in Cleveland, Henry county; Charles F., is married and lives in Chicago; and two died in infancy.

Bernhard L. Deem was about four years of age when his parents came to Colona township and until he became seventeen was reared upon the farm here. During those years he attended the public schools, receiving his final instruction under Professor Comstock, who was then superintendent of the Colona schools. At the age of seventeen he began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed until he was thirty-five, for it was not until 1886 that he took up his residence upon the farm which is now his home. It lies just upon the outskirts of the village of Colona and is a fine tract of eighty-four acres, upon which he pursues general farming and stock feeding. He also gives considerable attention to bee culture, some years having as much as five tons of marketable honey. In the twenty odd years that he has been a member of the farming community of Colona township, he has won a success that places him in the front rank of those who are pursuing the same line of work. His fields are cultivated by methods that render large returns for the expenditure of time and labor, and his stock is always equal to the best placed upon the market.

On the 25th of August, 1880, Mr. Deem was united in marriage to Miss Anna Dennhardt, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Jensen) Dennhardt. Shortly after their marriage her parents came to this country, settling in Rock Island county, Illinois, where Mr. Dennhardt became a prosperous farmer. He and his wife are still living in Hampton township, that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Deem have been born seven children: Charles H., Mary E., Andrew W., Minnie M., Florence A., and Burl L., who are still living, while Arthur J., the third in order of birth, died in infancy. The younger children live at home, but Mary E., is now the wife of Charles Johnson, of Osco township.

Mr. Deem has always been a staunch democrat in his political views, as was his father, and like him has taken an active part in public and party matters. He has frequently been a delegate to democratic county and district conventions, and has for many years past been the Colona township member of the central committee. As a member of the Colona township school board his influence was ever exerted in behalf of better educational facilities, for he is a man of progressive ideas, from which his fellow citizens benefit, in the way of good roads, substantial bridges and in other ways which are calculated to promote the public welfare. In every way a splendid member of the community, he is held in high esteem by his friends and neighbors.

---

### JOHN SODERQUIST.

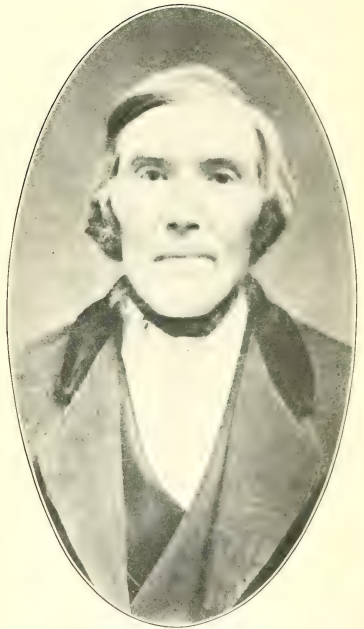
Among the many men who have contributed to the reputation of Bishop Hill as being the home of industrious and progressive agriculturists must be included John Soderquist, one of its native sons. He was born November 21, 1850, a son of Lars Soderquist, who came to Bishop Hill with the original colonists. The father was a carpenter by trade and left his native Helsingland, Sweden in 1846. After locating here he followed his chosen vocation during the existence of the colony, and then, when it was incorporated into a village, he continued in his chosen line of work, although he had also considerable agricultural interests. He passed away in 1903, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years and nine months. His wife, whose maiden name was Barbara Peterson, came to the colony in 1847, and died here July 25, 1901.

John Soderquist attended the public schools here, deriving a good education, and later continued his instruction under the tutelage of Mr. Randall of Cambridge. His schooling completed he engaged in agricultural pursuits and about 1870 bought of his father one hundred and twenty acres of land west of Bishop Hill. On this he built a house, barns and the necessary outhouses to make the place one of the well equipped farms in the locality. Until within a few years ago he engaged in general farming, but recently he has devoted considerable attention to the raising of broom corn, finding it a most profitable adjunct to his other farm interests. Hardworking and industrious, careful in his methods, it is but natural that he should have attained a high degree of success in his vocation. He has added twenty acres to the original tract of land and the returns from his labor thereon are large and gratifying.

On the 22d of August, 1871, Mr. Soderquist was united in marriage to Miss Mary Blomberg, a daughter of P. O. Blomberg, a blacksmith of Bishop Hill. Her father came from Helsingland, Sweden, with the second band of colonists who settled at Bishop Hill, and he took a very active and prominent part in the affairs of the colony. He was one of the party sent to California in search of gold and he also assisted in the construction of the old town clock, which still keeps good time. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Soderquist, six of whom are living. They are: Minnie Evalina; Laura Elmira, who died in infancy; Laura, who is the wife of Victor Tillman, of Galva township; John



PETER O. BLOMBERG



LARS SODERQUIST



Wallace; Leslie William, who is in the postoffice at Galesburg; Milton Isaac; and Myrtle Verona, who is teaching school.

Since old enough to exercise the franchise right of a citizen of this republic, Mr. Soderquist has given his support invariably to the candidates of the republican party, feeling the greatest confidence in the tenets it presents for the government of a nation. While he has not been an aspirant for office, he has served as school director for a period of eighteen years and is ever interested in matters which concern his fellow citizens. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, being an active member of the Galva lodge. The men who have come into close contact with him at the meetings of the society have but corroborated the reputation he has gained of being a man of principle and strong character and well worthy of the respect he enjoys.

---

#### CHARLES W. LAGER.

Charles W. Lager, who is identified with the business interests of Geneseo, Illinois, as the proprietor of a dry-goods and shoe store, was born in Sweden on the 23d of October, 1873. His father, Alfred Lager, was also a native of Sweden who, on coming to the United States, located in Geneseo, Illinois, in 1882. He had been a soldier in the Swedish army and in his native country was a furniture manufacturer by trade, but after his arrival in the new country he became identified with the carpenter and carriage-maker's business. He passed away in Geneseo in 1903, at the age of fifty-five years. His wife, whose maiden name was Amelia Anderson, still survives, her parents having both passed the ninetieth milestone on life's journey before passing to their final rest. She was the mother of eight children, which number included: Alma, the wife of Charles Anderson; Charles W.; Oscar; Hilma; Emil; Martin; Arthur; and Jessie.

Charles W. Lager, whose name introduces this review, was but eight years of age when he accompanied his parents to this country so that he is indebted to the school system of Geneseo for the educational privileges enjoyed. He attended the public schools of this city, passing from grade to grade until in due course of time he was graduated from the high school. After putting aside his text-books he served as a clerk in a general store for a number of years, and then, at the age of twenty-two years, engaged in the mercantile business on his own account in Atkinson, Illinois, in partnership with Frank Cook. This relation continued for seven years, at the expiration of which period Mr. Lager withdrew from the concern and returned to Geneseo, where he purchased the interest of Mr. McBroom in the firm of Lambert & McBroom, dry-goods merchants. The business, which is now conducted under the style of Lambert & Lager, has reached gratifying proportions, being accorded a liberal patronage which is constantly increasing. The house deals in general dry goods and shoes and carries an extensive line of goods which has been carefully selected with the view of meeting and satisfying popular demand. The business methods employed have always been honorable and upright and have gained for the firm the trust and confidence of the entire community.

It was on the 14th of May, 1903, that Mr. Lager was united in marriage to Miss Emma Vermere, who was born in Moline, Illinois, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vermere, both natives of Holland. They were early settlers in Moline, where the father passed away in 1903 at the age of sixty years, while his wife still survives. By her marriage she became the mother of three children, all of whom grew to maturity, namely: Emma, now Mrs. Lager; Nettie, the wife of Frank Styvant; and Edward. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lager has been blessed with two children, Carol Lillian and Wilbur.

The family are members of the Lutheran church, while in politics Mr. Lager gives stalwart support to the republican party. He is public-spirited in his citizenship and although born across the waters, has the interests of this country at heart as truly as does any American born citizen. He has made good use of his opportunities, prospering from year to year, and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully, his close application to his affairs and his excellent management having brought to him the degree of prosperity which is today his. Having spent almost his entire life in this community, he has gained a wide acquaintance while his many sterling traits of character have won for him the regard, esteem and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

---

#### CYRUS B. ARNOLD.

The agricultural interests of Henry county find a worthy and successful representative in Cyrus B. Arnold, who is the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres on sections 28 and 29, Cambridge township. He was born in Windsor county, Vermont, on the 28th of August, 1835, his parents being William A. and Mary (Brooks) Arnold, likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. The paternal grandparents, Amos and Amelia Arnold, reared a family of sixteen children and passed away when well advanced in years. Amos Arnold was a farmer by occupation. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Solomon Brooks, who was a native of Vermont and likewise carried on general agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood. In young manhood he wedded Miss Amelia Fisher and they became early settlers of Peoria county, Illinois, taking up their abode there in 1842. Both died in Peoria county when about eighty years of age. Their children were five in number, namely: George, Cyrus, Mary, Martha and Elvira.

William A. Arnold, the father of Cyrus B. Arnold, was a carpenter by trade. In 1844 he made his way to this state, settling in Brimfield, Peoria county, where he was killed by lightning about three months later. His wife, long surviving him, was called to her final rest in March, 1889, being at that time almost ninety-two years of age, for she was born June 13, 1797. She was a devoted and consistent member of the Congregational church. By her marriage she had become the mother of eight children, four sons and four daughters, two of whom still survive, as follows: Mariette, the wife of T. J. Owen, of Cambridge township; and Cyrus B., of this review.

The last named, who was a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, grew to manhood on the home farm in Peoria county. He attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and, as he was the youngest son in the family, was the last of the children to leave the parental roof. When twenty years of age he started out in life on his own account as an agriculturist and in 1868 established his home in Henry county, this state, purchasing the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Cambridge township on which he still resides. He has since extended the boundaries of the place by the additional purchase of an adjoining tract of eighty acres and his farm now embraces two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land. His property has been developed in keeping with the most progressive ideas of modern agriculture and he annually gathers bounteous harvests. He is likewise the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Roosevelt county, New Mexico.

Mr. Arnold has been married twice. On the 16th of November, 1857, he wedded Miss Ellen S. Owen, a daughter of Easton and Sarah (Gilbert) Owen. She passed away in 1859 and on the 6th of October, 1861, Mr. Arnold was again married, his second union being with Miss Mercy Miranda Fuller, a native of Windham county, Vermont. Her parents, Martin Luther and Edna (Converse) Fuller, were also born in the state of Vermont. They had six children, three sons and three daughters, four of whom grew to maturity, namely: Martin Luther, Edna Selina, Lucina and Mercy Miranda; Charley H., Mary Edna and Lily are deceased. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Arnold was Bartholomew Fuller, who fought in the war of 1812. By his second marriage, Mr. Arnold had three children, Charley H., Mary Edna and Lily, but the daughters are both deceased.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Arnold has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party. In religious faith both he and his wife are Baptists. He is a man whom to know is to respect and honor, for in every relation of life he has manifested those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime command confidence and awaken regard. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than forty years and he has a wide and favorable acquaintance within its borders.

---

### WILLIAM MORRIS.

William Morris, numbered among the representative farmers of Munson township, his home being located on section 34, is now the owner of a very extensive tract of land of six hundred and fifty-five acres. This constitutes one of the most valuable farms in the county, and its improvement has been carried on along the most modern and progressive lines of agriculture. Mr. Morris was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, March 12, 1832, and has therefore passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey. He is undoubtedly one of the heirs of Robert Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, who, during the Revolutionary war, loaned the government one million, four hundred thousand dollars, which has never been repaid. Without the aid of this

timely loan, it is said, George Washington would not have been able to capture Yorktown. At five per cent interest this sum would now amount to about sixty-seven million, two hundred thousand dollars, which the government will pay when proper proof of the heirs is submitted.

William Morris is the son of Augustus and Hannah (Elston) Morris. The father was born in Connecticut and was a son of Andrew and Polly (Frost) Morris, who removed from New England to Pennsylvania during the boyhood of their son Augustus, and there both passed away. Both Andrew and August Morris were farmers and lumber manufacturers, and in his boyhood days William Morris worked in one of the lumber mills through the winter seasons, while in the summer months he engaged in farming. He received but a limited education in the public schools but through reading and observation, possessing an observing eye and retentive memory, he picked up much knowledge and throughout life has kept well informed on all matters of general interest. Seeking a home in the west, he came to Henry county, where his brother Julius had previously located. He made his way to his brother's home but soon afterward rented land from a Mr. Mascal. He brought with him to Illinois a little money which he had saved from his earnings after he reached the age of twenty-one years, but it was not enough to purchase land, and for a long period he continued to rent a farm. Eventually, however, he saved from his earnings a sum sufficient to justify his investment in property.

On the 7th of May, 1857, in Munson township, Mr. Morris was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Jane Cochran, a daughter of William and Lydia (Moriarty) Cochran. Mrs. Morris was born in Knox county, Ohio. Her father was a native of Ireland and when sixteen years of age started on the voyage to the new world. While the family were enroute the father of William Cochran died on the ocean, and the mother with her children afterward settled at Zanesville, Ohio, where William Cochran was reared. Having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Lydia Moriarty, who was born in Virginia, but in her girlhood days accompanied her parents to Ohio. Mrs. Morris was less than nine years of age when her people drove across the country from Ohio to Fayette county, Illinois, and after three years came to Henry county, arriving in 1853—the year before Mr. Morris reached this district.

As soon as possible after he came to Henry county Mr. Morris purchased forty acres of land. He also cut logs which he hauled to Cambridge that they might be converted into lumber. When this was done a little house was erected therefrom, and it is still standing upon acres that yet belong to him. After a few years he and his brother purchased forty acres more, which they divided, and by successive purchases Mr. Morris has extended his landed interests until he is now the owner of six hundred and fifty-five acres all in one body. This is one of the largest farms in the county and one of the best improved, giving every evidence of the careful supervision and progressive methods of the owner.

As the years passed by eight children were added to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Morris, namely: Mary E., who is the wife of James Taylor and resides in Munson township; George, who married Tina Walker; Charles H., who married Blanche Henwood and resides in Britt, Iowa; Lettie, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Frank, at home; Ida, the wife of Lester Crouch, a resident

of Munson township; and James and John, twins. Of these, however, James died at the age of six years.

Mr. Morris has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party but not an office seeker. He has served, however, for many years as school director and for one term as road commissioner. For more than a half century he has lived in Henry county, witnessing many changes here as its wild land has been converted into fine farms, in the midst of which have sprung up thriving towns and cities, so that industrial and commercial as well as agricultural interests are well represented here. His success is due entirely to his perseverance and well directed energies, and in all of his business methods he has been found equally reliable. His worth is widely acknowledged and Munson township proudly claims him as one of its leading farmers.

---

#### NILS AUGUST CARLSON.

Nils August Carlson, who since 1899 has acted as manager for the firm of J. C. Simpson & Company, lumber dealers of Galva, was born in Ystad, Sweden, on the 22d of December, 1863. His parents, Carl and Anna (Rasmussen) Carlson, were likewise natives of that country. The paternal grandfather, Carl Johann Rosenberg, who was born in Sweden, was a millwright by trade and built wind flouring mills. He lived to attain an old age and reared a family of three sons. Rasmus Martinson, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a farmer by occupation and died in Sweden when about seventy years of age. The demise of his wife likewise occurred in that country. Unto them were born five sons and a daughter, namely: Peter, John, Hans, Martin, Nils and Anna.

Carl Carlson, the father of Nils A. Carlson, was a carpenter by trade and worked as such throughout the greater part of his life. He crossed the Atlantic to the United States in the fall of 1883 and came direct to Galva, this county, assisting his son Olaf in the coal mine. He died in Galva when seventy-two years of age, passing away in the faith of the Lutheran church. He was twice married, and the three children of his first wife are as follows: Olaf; John; and Mary, who is the wife of Nils Anderson and resides near Kewanee. His second wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Rasmussen, still survives at the age of eighty-one years and is a faithful and devoted member of the Lutheran church. She was the mother of three children, namely: Andrew, of Kewanee, Illinois; Nils August, of this review; and a daughter who died in infancy.

Nils A. Carlson obtained a common-school education in Sweden and worked on a farm there until a little past eighteen years of age. It was in the spring of 1882 that he emigrated to the United States, wishing to take advantage of the opportunities which the new world afforded. After landing on the shores of this country he made his way at once to Galva, Henry county, where he worked as a farm hand for a time and for one summer was employed on the railroad. Subsequently he labored in the coal mine during the winter season and in 1888 commenced work in the lumberyard of the E. W. Houghton Lumber Company, with which concern he remained until 1897. In that year he accepted a position

with the firm of J. C. Simpson & Company, and that he soon gained the trust and confidence of his employers is indicated by the fact that in 1899 he was made manager of the company. He still holds this responsible position, and his sound judgment and excellent executive ability have contributed in no small degree to the success which has attended the enterprise.

On the 28th of November, 1899, Mr. Carlson was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Anderson, a daughter of John Anderson. She passed away in March, 1902, when but twenty-six years of age. Mr. Carlson is a staunch republican in his political views and capably served his fellow townsmen as a member of the city council for two terms. He also acted as township clerk for four years, ever discharging his official duties in a most prompt and efficient manner. He is a member of Galva Lodge, No. 408, I. O. O. F., in which he is serving as lodge deputy, and also belongs to the Encampment and to the Rebekahs. He is likewise identified with the Independent Order of Svithiod, an insurance and sick benefit society, and has served as its president since the time of its organization. He is a man of literary attainments and is especially gifted as a poet. A number of years ago he published a book of poems called "Hoppets Behag," meaning "The Pleasures of Hope." He is well educated in both the Swedish and English languages and translates from the Swedish to the English and vice versa. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than a quarter of a century and he has an extensive circle of warm friends within its borders. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in America but on the contrary has found here the business opportunities he has sought and in their utilization has won a goodly measure of success.

---

#### FRED H. BROWN.

Fred H. Brown is a leading grocer of Geneseo with a large establishment and a fine stock of goods, and his success has resulted from his progressive methods. A native of Illinois, he was born at Wyanet, August 6, 1870, and is a son of Constant and Annie M. (Wilcox) Brown, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. He remained a resident of Wyanet until thirteen years of age and during that period attended the public schools. In the summer of 1884 he came to Geneseo and was graduated from the high school of this city with the class of 1887. His education completed he began clerking in the grocery store of George T. Wilkinson and afterward entered the employ of the Rock Island Railroad Company, which he served in various departments, acting as a fireman for several years, or until 1897, when he purchased a half interest in the Ramsey grocery store of Geneseo, forming a partnership with William Lowes. This association was maintained with mutual pleasure and profit until 1905, when Mr. Brown purchased his partner's interest and has since been sole proprietor of the store. He has developed a fine business, employing several clerks, while his stock is always fresh and contains a full line of staple and fancy groceries. His store, too, is neat and tasteful in its arrangement and judicious advertising is also a feature of his business.

On the 20th of June, 1894, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Jessie Sargent, a native of Geneseo and a daughter of Daniel F. and Abra (Dunning) Sargent. Mr. and Mrs. Brown now have two children, Dorothy and Constant. The parents and children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The family occupies a pleasant home on Stewart avenue, which is the abode of hospitality, its doors being ever open for the cordial reception of their many friends.

---

### H. J. STEWART, M. D.

H. J. Stewart is a prominent and successful member of the medical profession, now specializing in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat in Kewanee. He has also taken prominent part in the public interests of the city, advocating, supporting and cooperating in all measures for the upbuilding and development of Kewanee along the lines of material, intellectual, aesthetic and moral progress. He was born in Warren county, Illinois, March 21, 1868, and is a son of David B. and Sarah E. (Pilkington) Stewart, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers of this state. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in May, 1902, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Kewanee.

On the homestead farm Dr. Stewart spent his youthful days, while his early education was obtained in the district schools. He afterward attended the high school at Alexis, Illinois, and in the preparation for his profession pursued a course in the medical department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1893. He devoted several months to hospital work, his broad experience in that connection proving an excellent equipment for the duties which devolved upon him when he entered upon private practice. In June, 1893, he opened an office in Viola, Mercer county, Illinois, where he remained until his removal to Kewanee on the 1st of March, 1900. In the meantime in 1899 he took a post-graduate course on diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He has since specialized in this department of practice and has done excellent work in this connection, carrying his investigations and researches far and wide into the realms of scientific knowledge, whereby his efficiency is increased and his work is rendered of greater value to his fellowmen. He is also chief of staff of St. Francis Hospital, is oculist and aurist there and for two years, by reason of his position as chief of staff, was at the head of the St. Francis Hospital Training School for nurses, which was organized during his incumbency. He is a member of the Henry County Medical Society, the Illinois State and the American Medical Associations, and for two years was president of the Physicians Club of Kewanee.

In 1894 Dr. Stewart was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide H. Frazier, of Viola, Illinois, a daughter of H. B. Frazier, who was one of the leading merchants of that place, where his death occurred July 11, 1898. Dr. and Mrs. Stewart have become parents of two daughters, Florence Verl and Louise Ruth.

Dr. Stewart is a member of the Presbyterian church and of the Masonic fraternity, finding in those organizations the principles which constitute the guiding

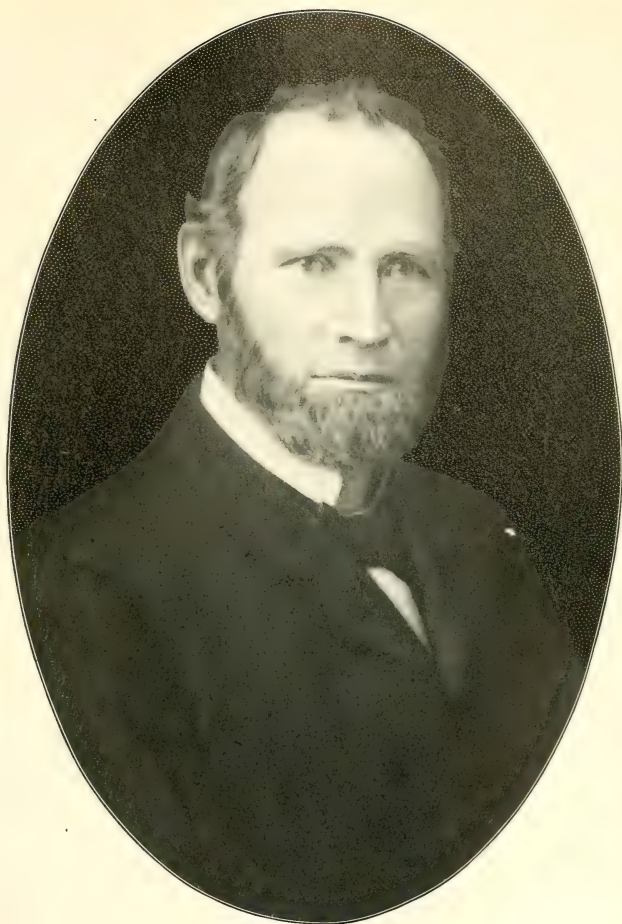
forces of his life and in 1893 was president of the building committee of the former. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, giving his aid and his influence for the benefit of the community at large. While living in Warren county he served as school trustee for a time and was president of the village board of Viola for six years and a trustee and chairman of the village council. He also acted as township school trustee for three years. He was elected to those positions on the democratic ticket but at the present time is not an advocate of modern democracy and gives his political support to the republican party. Called to the school board of Kewanee he has done active work to further the interests of education here and the present high-school building was erected during his administration as president of the board. In the building of the school-house the financial interests were managed by a committee of which Dr. Stewart was made president, and the building was completed at a cost of one hundred and fourteen thousand, one hundred and ninety-five dollars and twenty cents. After serving one year Dr. Stewart was again elected. He belongs to the Kewanee Club and has been honored with its presidency, being now the incumbent in the office, and is vice president of the Commercial Club. Again and again called to official preferment, the honors that have thus been conferred upon him indicate clearly his high standing and the regard entertained for him by those who know him most intimately.

---

### JAMES MCBROOM.

James McBroom, who came to the United States after being liberally educated in Ireland under a private tutor, manifested keen perception in determining the value of opportunities which were presented and as the years passed by made for himself a position most creditable and honorable in the business circles of Geneseo. He was very active in managing his affairs and became one of the leading grain merchants of this part of the state. Prompt, energetic and notably reliable, he made for himself an honored name and one which deserves to be perpetuated on the pages of Henry county's history. He was born in County Armagh, Ireland, on the 5th of October, 1827, and his parents, William and Jane (Harrison) McBroom, were also natives of the same country. The father was a farmer and stockman there and conducted business for many years, passing away at an advanced age. In the family were three sons and three daughters but only one is now living, John McBroom, who resides on Mamboo Island, Australia, near Sidney, and owns nearly the entire island.

James McBroom spent the first eighteen years of his life in the place of his nativity and about 1845 crossed the Atlantic to America. He settled first in New York where he remained for a time and in 1854 came to Illinois where he and Andrew and James Crawford, entered the employ of a railroad company, building fences. Soon afterward, however, James McBroom went to work for Mr. Van Winkle, owner of a grain elevator and later he formed a partnership with I. N. Wilson. They operated the elevator for many years, beginning in 1857 and were widely known as prominent and successful representatives of the grain trade. A man of resourceful business ability, Mr. McBroom extended his ef-



JAMES McBROOM



forts into other fields and became the first president of the First National Bank of Geneseo. His name was long an honored one on commercial paper in this part of the state and his business activity, keen discernment and sound judgment made him regarded as one of the foremost men in Geneseo.

On the 6th of October, 1855, Mr. McBroom was united in marriage to Miss Margritha Kaiser, a daughter of John and Maria (Simmons) Kaiser. Mrs. McBroom was born in Leuzingen, Oberamt, Bueren, Canton Berne, Switzerland, June 28, 1830, and when a young girl of thirteen years came with her parents to America in 1843. They settled first in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, where they lived on a farm for eleven years and then removed to Henry county, Illinois, taking up their abode here in 1854. They settled on a farm in Annawan township and a short time prior to their demise removed to Shabbona Grove. Her father had been a teacher in Switzerland and was ever a great student, reading broadly and thinking deeply. He held various local offices and was a prominent figure in the home locality. His death occurred in 1871 when he was seventy-five years of age, while his wife survived him until 1873 and passed away at the age of seventy-six years. They had a family of eight children who reached mature years: Elizabeth, who became the wife of Stephen Hanni; Marian, the wife of John Walter; John S.; Frederick; Mrs. McBroom; Alexander; Albert; and Jacob.

The paternal grandfather of Mrs. McBroom was Ursus Kaiser who died in Switzerland at the age of eighty-four or eighty-five years. His wife bore the maiden name of Maria Offolter. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. McBroom was John Simmons, who was a farmer and died in Switzerland when well advanced in years. His wife bore the maiden name of Maria Loeffel.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McBroom was blessed with a family of six sons, Alexander K., now deceased, married Jennie Remington of Geneseo, who is now living in Spokane, Washington. They have one son, Cassius Remington McBroom. William John, the second son, now vice president of the First National Bank of Geneseo, married Myrtle Angell and they have two sons, William J. and James Henry. Frederick K., living in Spokane, Washington, wedded Margaret Mae Ryder and they have one son, Roderick J. Charles Emmett, who has been cashier for a number of years in the Exchange National Bank of Spokane, Washington, married Florence Homer Green. Isaac Newton, who is engaged in farming, married Laura M. Drehmer and they have three daughters, Irene Genevieve, Grace D. and Margaret Charlotte. James Herbert, the youngest son, married Emma Moore, of Joliet, Illinois, and is now deceased. There was one daughter of that marriage who died at the age of five years.

The death of the husband and father occurred in 1895 when he was in his sixty-seventh year and he is still survived by Mrs. McBroom. They attended the Unitarian church and were very prominent in the social circles of the city, having many warm friends who esteemed them highly for their genuine personal worth. Mr. McBroom was not only regarded as a substantial and reliable business man but also as a citizen of public spirit whose efforts constituted a forceful factor in the substantial growth of the community. For two years he served as mayor of Geneseo and gave to the city a public-spirited and business-

like administration characterized by substantial reform, improvement and progress. He was not easily discouraged, sought ever to accomplish his ends by honorable means and never sacrificed truth or justice to policy. Mrs. McBroom is an intellectual lady, well preserved, naturally refined and of noble mind and bearing. She has reared a family of whom she has every reason to be proud. She has also done good work in connection with the philanthropic movements and charities of the city, responding readily to any tale of sorrow or distress.

---

### VICTOR L. HEDMAN.

With tireless energy, keen perception and ability to devise the right thing at the right time and with power to plan and to perform, Victor L. Hedman has come to be recognized as one of the representative business men of Geneseo where, as the senior partner of the firm of Hedman & Anderson, he is engaged in the lumber business. Henry county has a large percentage of citizens who are of Swedish birth or parentage. To this number belongs Victor L. Hedman, who was born in Gysinge, in the province of Gestrekland, Sweden, March 10, 1861. He was the younger of the two sons of Jonas and Christina (Sodestrom) Hedman, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The other son was Carl Johann. The paternal grandfather was Mats Hedman and his wife was Anna Du Hon, a lady of French lineage. Both lived to advanced age and the grandfather followed the occupation of farming that he might provide a good living for himself and his family, numbering his wife and two sons, Jonas and Lars. The maternal grandfather of Victor L. Hedman was Charles Sodestrom, who was employed in different smelters in Sweden. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Caroline Sodestrom, died in that country at an advanced age. They were the parents of two daughters: Christina and Sophia.

Jonas Hedman worked all his life in the iron smelters and died from illness which was brought on by becoming overheated in 1867 when he was forty-six years of age. His wife died six months before at the age of forty-five years and both were members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Victor L. Hedman was reared and educated in Sweden and spent his youthful days on the farm. At the age of nineteen years he came to the United States and settled near Cambridge, in Henry county, where he worked by the month at farm labor. He then engaged in cultivating rented land for two years, during which period he lived alone, attending to the household affairs himself as well as to the duties of the fields.

On the 13th of March, 1888, however, Mr. Hedman completed arrangements for having a home of his own in his marriage to Mrs. Gustava Greenlee, the widow of James Greenlee, and a daughter of Swan Wallin and Christina Wallin. Mrs. Hedman was born in Falkoping in the province of Westergotland, Sweden, and in 1866 came to the United States, while in 1869 her parents also made the voyage across the Atlantic to the new world and settled in Munson township, Henry county, Illinois. In 1870, however, they removed to Page county, Iowa, where both died. Mrs. Wallin, however, lived for sixteen years in Henry county

after her husband's death and passed away at the venerable age of ninety-eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hedman were born two children, Hilda and Harold.

The parents are members of the Swedish Lutheran church which is indicative of the attitude which they also maintain towards vital questions. Their influence is ever on the side of right, progress, justice and truth and in many ways they seek the good of the community. Politically Mr. Hedman is a republican and is now serving as a member of the city council from the fourth ward, being elected on the temperance ticket. Although he started out in life a poor boy, by industry and good management he has won success and is now one of the leading business men of Geneseo. His wife has always been a most faithful companion and helpmate to him since they started on life's journey together and her good counsel and help have encouraged him in every way. They have a beautiful home in Geneseo and other property which has been accumulated through their honest toil and industry and they enjoy in unlimited measure the respect of the entire community. Theirs is a most hospitable home and the circle of their friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

---

### JOHN F. SODERBURG.

One of the prominent farmers of Osco township is John F. Soderburg, who operates a three hundred and twenty acre farm on sections 33 and 34, which he rents from Mrs. Delia Andrews. He is rapidly making a reputation for himself as a breeder of pure blooded Shire and Clyde horses, and as a feeder and shipper of cattle and hogs. He was born in Sweden, September 19, 1875, and is a son of Jonas and Charlotte (Peterson) Soderburg. He was about eight years old when his parents came to the United States and he grew to manhood in the town of Orion, in which they located upon their arrival in Illinois. He received a fair education in the common schools there, though he was only fourteen years of age when he began the serious business of life as a farm hand in the employ of a man in the vicinity of Orion. When he attained his manhood he and his father together engaged in agriculture on land in Colona township, and then removed to the place where Mr. Soderburg now lives, taking a lease for sixteen years. In the eleven years that it has been his home he has had no cause to regret his venture, for he has found that the soil produced richly and he has met with success in the stock business, in which he has engaged extensively and to which he will devote more and more of his attention.

Mr. Soderburg was married in Andover, March 9, 1904, to Miss Annie Fredericson, who was born in Osco township. Her parents, John and Louisa Fredericson, were natives of Sweden and are now living in Cambridge, Illinois. Three children—Gladys, Dorothy and Frederick—have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Soderburg.

When he became of age, Mr. Soderburg chose the republican party as his guide in political matters and since casting his first presidential ballot for its candidate McKinley, in the election of 1896, has given to it its unswerving allegiance. He has taken an active part in the local affairs to Osco township, for

in 1906 he was elected collector, and upon the expiration of his term was, in 1908, elected highway commissioner, in which capacity he is serving his second year. During his incumbency of the office contracts have been let for the construction of concrete bridges which will be the first to be built in the township. Fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers of Cambridge and with the Osco Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, and plays a conspicuous part in the meetings of these bodies. He and his wife were both reared in the Methodist faith and are devout members of the church at Andover. Progressive in his ideas and conscientious in his performance of duties, Mr. Soderburg enjoys the respect and confidence of the citizens of Osco township and can look forward to a life which should be crowned with the success that comes inevitably as the result of hard work.

---

### DANTE MILTON STAMM.

Dante Milton Stamm, of the firm of Clouse & Stamm, druggists of Geneseo, was born in Dover, Bureau county, Illinois. His parents were Martin and Emeline (Clouse) Stamm, the former a native of Canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland, and the latter of Ohio. She was, however, of Pennsylvania German descent. The ancestry of the Stamm family can be traced back to Martin Stamm, who was born in 1675 and was mayor of Schleithem, Switzerland, during a part of his residence there. John Stamm, the grandfather, was born at Schaffhausen, Switzerland, November 11, 1805. He became a master cooper and manufactured wine vats of five thousand gallons capacity, in the district where wine-making was the chief industry. He had an equity in some real estate there, which he lost after leaving Schaffhausen by reason of non-payment. In the year 1851 he came to America with his family in consequence of the revolutionary movement of 1848. They settled first in New York, where they lived until 1858, and then went to Kankakee, Illinois, where John Stamm passed away in 1883 at the age of seventy-eight years. For a long period he had survived his wife, Mrs. Barbara (Wanner) Stamm, who died in 1867 at the age of sixty years. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom came to America: Agnes, Vincent, Anna, Martin and Christian. The last named served three years in the Civil war, in Company G, Twentieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and his discharge papers show he was a faithful soldier.

The great-grandparents of D. M. Stamm in the maternal line were Michael and Anna Maria (Bonewitz) Clouse. Michael Clouse was only a year old when his parents came from Alsace to America in 1791 and in the years of his manhood he became a well-to-do farmer of Fayette county, Pennsylvania. His wife's father was Jacob Bonewitz, who received an honorable discharge after having faithfully served in the Revolutionary war. He was a son of Conrad Bonewitz, who left Strassburg, Germany, prior to 1743 for his son Jacob was born in America in that year. They settled in Reading, Berks county, Pennsylvania, and Conrad Bonewitz was the founder of this branch of the family in the United States. The maternal grandfather of D. M. Stamm was Jacob Clouse, who was

born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and was of German lineage. He went to Ohio when that state was covered with the native growth of timber and there he assisted in clearing farms, but by trade was a shoemaker. It was then customary for a shoemaker to go from family to family and make shoes for the different members of the household according to measures which he took. After a time, as the result of his industry and economy, Mr. Clouse acquired a farm of his own in Wayne county, and removing there carried on shoemaking, his trade being sufficient to justify his employment of two men. He resided there until 1851, when he came with relatives to Illinois, settling at Dover, Bureau county. There he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved. He died, however, in 1860 when forty-seven years of age, on the day on which he had expected to vote for Abraham Lincoln. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Byers, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1820 and died in 1891. They had a family of five children: Matilda, who became the wife of Jesse Henney; Emeline, now Mrs. Stamm; Eliza D., the wife of John N. Knoblauch, who served in the Civil war as a member of Company B, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry; George Newton, formerly a member of the drug firm of Clouse & Stamm; and Esli H., who is living in Topeka, Kansas. The ancestry in the maternal line can be traced back to a still more remote period, for Sarah Byers was a daughter of David Byers, who was the son of David Byers, born 1755 and died 1831, a native of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, who was born in a two-story log house that was built in 1669 on the old homestead of the family about four miles west of the town. The wife of David Byers was Elizabeth Stambaugh, whose father, Philip Stambaugh, was one of the humble heroes of the Revolutionary war. His father, too, was a member of the same company. Both father and son bore the name of Philip and belonged to the York county militia. The father came to America from Alsace in 1741. It was from him that Sarah Byers was descended. She was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1820 and gave her hand in marriage to Jacob Clouse, whom she survived, passing away in 1891.

Martin Stamm, the father of D. M. Stamm, remained a resident of Switzerland until 1851, when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. After living for seven years in New York the family home was established in Kankakee, Illinois, and Martin Stamm has since resided in this state. About the time of the outbreak of the Civil war he took up the work of the ministry and for forty years was connected with the Evangelical Association. He has been most zealous and earnest in his labors in behalf of the church and has not been denied the liberal harvests nor the aftermath in that his influence and his diligence have been a most potent factor for good in the lives of many with whom he has come in contact. He and his wife now reside in Chicago and several of their children are with them there. Their household numbered six children, namely: Dante Milton, of this review; George C., of Chicago; Carlton, who died in infancy; Flora Lula, living in Chicago; Charles Raphael, who is in Douglas, Wyoming; and Wallace Martin, of Chicago.

D. M. Stamm, whose name introduces this record, came to Geneseo in 1881 and has since been twenty-eight years in the drug business. He was reared in Illinois and he is indebted to its public-school system for the educational privi-

leges which he received and which qualified him for the practical duties of the business world. In 1892 he became associated with George N. Clouse and they continued together in the drug trade for seventeen years under the firm style of Clouse & Stamm. On June 1, 1909, Mr. Stamm became sole proprietor and now has a well appointed store, supplied with excellent fixtures and most attractive in its arrangement. He carries a large and well selected line of goods and his success is due to honorable methods, earnest efforts to please customers, judicious advertising and an attractive display of the drugs and druggists' sundries which he handles.

Mr. Stamm belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter No. 275, O. E. S., Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport. He is now acting as senior warden of Stewart Lodge. He was married September 5, 1909, to Miss Eliza Harper Shaw, a daughter of George W. Shaw, of Geneseo.

---

### HUGH HUTCHINSON.

Hugh Hutchinson, pleasantly located in Munson township, where he has a farm covering the southwest quarter of section 10, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, May 2, 1867. His parents were Robert and Jane (Livingston) Hutchinson, who left the Keystone state about 1869 and came with their family to Henry county, Illinois. The father secured a farm in Munson township, and thereon established the family home. With characteristic energy he began the cultivation and development of the fields and as the years passed by transformed the place into an attractive tract, from which he annually gathered good harvests for many years. He continued to reside there until about 1899, when he went to Geneseo, where he is now living retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former labor.

Hugh Hutchinson was only about two and a half years old at the time of the removal of the family to this county, and on the old homestead he was reared, working in the fields from the time that he was old enough to handle the plow. Broad practical experience therefore well qualified him for farm work when he started out in life for himself. He had also acquired a fair education in the schools of the neighborhood. On attaining his majority he rented land for a year and at the end of that time purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Cornwall township, there making his home until 1890, after which he rented that farm. He bought two hundred and eighty acres east of Cambridge but has never lived on that property. He next purchased one hundred and sixty acres on the northwest quarter of section 2, Munson township. He removed to his present home from Cornwall township and has here made good improvements in keeping with the modern ideas of progressive farming. He has good buildings upon the place, and the latest machinery facilitates the work of the fields as he plows and plants his land and gathers his harvests.

Mr. Hutchinson was married March 27, 1890, in the city of Geneseo to Miss Hattie Swiger, a daughter of Carl and Theresa (Mueller) Swiger, both of whom are living in Geneseo. They have a family of four children: Carl, who was born in Cornwall township July 1, 1892; Gale, born February 24, 1895; Mina, born October 1, 1897; and Dean, born October 1, 1901.

In politics Mr. Hutchinson is an independent republican and has served as school trustee and school director. His fraternity relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He prefers, however, to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and is now one of the prosperous farmers of the county. He raises, feeds and ships stock and is well known as a leading live-stock dealer, while in the cultivation of cereals best adapted to soil and climate he is also meeting with success.

---

### ALBERT PETERSON.

Albert Peterson is one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists of Cambridge township, owning a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 36. His birth occurred in Wethersfield township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 27th of September, 1880, his parents being John and Anna (Garey) Peterson, natives of Sweden and Pennsylvania respectively. The parental grandfather passed away in Sweden when well advanced in years. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Isaac Garey, was of German descent and was born in Pennsylvania, where he followed merchandising. He made his way to this county at an early period in its development and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, operating a farm near Kewanee. He was well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as a most respected and worthy citizen, and his death, which occurred when he was seventy years of age, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

John Peterson, the father of Albert Peterson, crossed the Atlantic to the United States about 1874 and took up his abode in Kewanee, Henry county, Illinois. He first worked as a farm hand for a number of years and then purchased a tract of eighty acres in Galva township, where he resided for five years. On the expiration of that period he disposed of the property and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 36, Cambridge township, on which he made his home until 1902, when he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to Moline, where he has since lived retired. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church. He was twice married, and his first wife passed away in 1884, when about thirty-one years of age. They had two children, as follows: Albert, of this review, and Anna, who is the wife of Albert Burke and resides near Hedrick, Iowa. Subsequent to the death of his first wife John Peterson was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Anna Gabrielson.

Albert Peterson was reared on the home farm in this county and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He then rented the old homestead farm from his father and operated it for four years, on the ex-

piration of which period he bought the property and has since devoted his time and energies to its further cultivation and improvement with excellent success. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, and the well tilled fields annually yield golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which is bestowed upon them.

On the 18th of February, 1904, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Edith Anderson, who was born in Cambridge township, this county, on the 30th of August, 1882, her parents being Olof and Mary (Elm) Anderson, natives of Sweden. On coming to the United States they took up their abode in Henry county, Illinois, among its early settlers. Their children were four in number, namely: Olive, the wife of Andrew Rapp; Elmer; Mrs. Peterson and Maude Amelia. Olof Anderson has been twice married. His first wife bore the maiden name of Celia Nasberg, and they had one son, Charles. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Peterson was John Elm, a native of Sweden. After making the ocean voyage to this country he located in Cambridge township, Henry county, and gave his attention to the work of farming. He passed away at the ripe old age of seventy-six years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born three children, the first being twin daughters, one of whom died when only a day old. The other is Anna Helen, and their son is Milford Lester.

At the polls Mr. Peterson casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party. His wife is a devoted and consistent member of the Swedish Methodist church at Bishop Hill. The young couple have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which they have always resided, having won the kindly regard and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact.

---

### ELIJAH STOREY.

One of the prominent men of Henry county, who has won distinction in the stock-raising business and through the exhibition of numerous prize horses, is Elijah Storey, of Kewanee. He was born in this city, October 29, 1851, a descendant of one of the respected pioneer families of the county. His father, Jarius Storey, was a native of Oneida county, New York, where his birth occurred March 18, 1828. He attended the common schools of that locality until his twelfth year, when with his parents, Elijah and Louise (Wheeler) Storey, also natives of Oneida county, he removed to Canada. There he worked for a man who was in the employ of the English government as Indian agent and trader, remaining with him for about five years. Two years later, when he was nineteen years old, he came alone to Illinois, reaching Kewanee June 18, 1847. His father died about three years after his arrival here and his mother did not long survive. Her parents were natives of Dutchess county, New York, which was their home throughout life.

Upon coming to Henry county Jarius Storey, who was just entering the period of his manhood, obtained forty acres of land on section 4, Kewanee township, and later acquired two other forty acre tracts from the government. It was an entirely wild country that met the gaze of the pioneers at that day.



FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE STOREY FAMILY



Then there was not a single building on the present site of the city, the country being covered with tall prairie grass, while Indians were still not infrequently seen and deer and other wild game abounded. The nearest market in those days was either Peru or Lasalle on the Illinois river, and about four times a year Mr. Storey would go to one of these places to obtain provisions to last for months. Nor were those journeys the only hardships, for in those days before the invention of the many farming implements, Mr. Storey was compelled to cut his grain with a cradle and thresh it with a flail. Nevertheless, he engaged in agriculture with pronounced success throughout his active life, making his home on the land which he had entered from the government. He has now retired and lives on North Lexington avenue, Kewanee.

In 1850 Jarius Storey wedded Miss Nancy Dingman, who was born in Canada and came to this county with her parents but the year before her marriage. She was the seventh in a family of eleven children. Mary became the wife of James Bradford, a blacksmith of Annawan, who during the Civil war enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. As he was confined to the hospital during the greater part of his services he saw little active warfare. He and his wife have both died but are survived by three children, Lucy, Lovina and Josephus. David married Mary Showers, of Kewanee, and removed to Kansas, where he pursued farming. He and his wife have also died, leaving a family. William married Miss Hodge and they are survived by four children, who are residents of Dayton, Iowa. Joseph wedded Jane Rockey and made his home in Kewanee until the outbreak of the Civil war. In 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry and after being discharged removed to Kansas, where he engaged in farming until his death. He is survived by three children. Jennette became the wife of George Minord. They have both died and are survived by nine children, who are living in Iowa. Margaret married George Mesker. They died, leaving four children, Merritt, Hattie, Elizabeth and George, who live in Kewanee. Nancy became the wife of Jarius Storey and the mother of our subject. Eliza married James McNeal. They, too, have passed away, leaving two children, William and John, of Alba township. James and his wife died in Iowa. Lawrence also married and lived in Abingdon, Illinois, where he was killed during the erection of a building. He left a family. Frank enlisted in 1861 in Company I, Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry, was wounded in the battles of Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga and was mustered out in 1865. He was twice married and now with his family resides in Iowa.

Mrs. Nancy Storey died December 30, 1865. She was the mother of seven children. Elijah, our subject, is the eldest. David L., born in 1853, died at the age of eleven. Josephine was only four months old when she passed away. Three others died in infancy. Jane, who was born in 1861, became the wife of George Ditto and now lives in Canyon City, Texas, where they are rearing their three children, Dora, Jarius and Laura Pearl. Jarius Storey was again married April 25, 1867, his second union being with Mrs. Elizabeth Swyhart. Two children were born of this union. The older died at the age of two months, and Tessa, whose birth occurred October 4, 1872, is the wife of Fred Riley, who is in charge of one of the departments of the National Tube Company of

Kewanee. He at one time owned Urbin, which is now in the possession of his brother-in-law, Elijah Storey. Mr. Storey has always been identified with the republican party, having cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and has been prominent in local affairs, having served as overseer of highways and as school director. He enjoys a high reputation among the citizens of Kewanee and surrounding country.

Reared to the life of a farmer, Elijah Storey has followed it as his vocation, but while he tills with success a tract of land in Kewanee township his special attention is devoted to the stock business. In this he has achieved such success that he is accounted one of the important stock raisers in Illinois. Almost from the very beginning his horses have won distinction, his first colt having received the first premium at Cambridge in 1876. He owned the French draft horse, Sultan, which won many prizes and sweepstakes every time he was exhibited during the years he was in Mr. Storey's possession. Arimus, a Percheron, his next horse, won twenty-four first prizes in Henry county, besides obtaining premiums at various state fairs. Urbin, a French coach stallion, which is now in his possession, won a gold medal at the World's Fair in 1893. Another celebrated horse, Voltaire, which was considered the best of its class in the state, was also in Mr. Storey's stables. It is to the breeding of Percheron, Clydesdale and French coach horses and of registered cattle and hogs that he has given his attention and is recognized even beyond the boundaries of Henry county as a man who is cognizant with every detail of this important business.

It was on the 27th of February, 1872, that the marriage of Mr. Storey and Miss Lavina McClennan was celebrated. She was born in Kendall county, Illinois, September 23, 1852, and is a daughter of David and Resinda (Call) McClennan. Her father, who was a native of Niagara county, New York, where his birth occurred September 5, 1820, came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1855. He settled first in Annawan, but later moved to Alba township, where he died December 9, 1898. His wife, who was born in Canada, November 2, 1826, preceded him to the grave many years, for her death occurred December 29, 1860. Through their marriage, which had been solemnized August 29, 1844, they became the parents of four children: George, who died in infancy; John, who married Retta Blake and after her death wedded Miss Sabina Benson and now lives in Ruthven, Palo Alto county, Iowa; Lavina, who is the wife of Mr. Storey; and Ella, who married George Andrews and after his death married Chris Jorgensen, of Pipestone, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Storey are the parents of five children. Nellie, who was born September 19, 1874, died October 5, 1875. Jarius L., born July 12, 1876, and Clarence L., born October 7, 1882, are at home. Ida is the wife of William Bing, a farmer of Kewanee, and they have four children. Ada, a twin sister of Ida's, married James Gash, a farmer of Annawan township.

Mr. Stone has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and has been very active in its affairs in this county for during the past six years he has been the township's representative on the central committee and has served as judge of election on several occasions. He is also assistant supervisor of the township, now serving his fourth term. It is to be remarked, however, that when his name was first placed upon the ticket as a candidate for the office he received the largest

majority of votes ever polled in his township. As president of the Kewanee Agricultural Fair, of which he has also been director during the last six years, and as director of the Henry County Telephone Company he has shown a most trustworthy interest in advancing the welfare of the community. He is equally prominent in the church of the United Brethren, for he was president of its board of trustees, and upon his shoulders devolves the care of the parsonage. In short, while he has given his first attention to his private concerns with a success that has already been specified, he has not cramped his interests by confining them to few matters. On the contrary, his breadth of sympathies and his broad viewpoint are among the many things that make him such an esteemed citizen of the city, the township and the county.

---

### ISRAEL G. HEAPS.

Israel G. Heaps, a resident of Kewanee, came to Henry country in 1848, when his father, the late William G. Heaps, cast his lot with that of the early pioneers of this part of the noble prairie state. Mr. Heaps was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1839. On the paternal side the ancestral line can be traced back many generations to the time when the Scotch Presbyterians removed to the north of Ireland from their native country. In the middle of the seventeenth century they came to this country, settling in the Maryland colony, whence the younger generation scattered out in the western states. On the maternal side—the Green family—Mr. Heaps traces the ancestry back to Germany, whence representatives of the name went to England and afterward came to this country with the early settlers of Pennsylvania. In 1844 William G. Heaps came to Illinois, taking up his abode in Adams county, but two years later removed to Wisconsin, hoping to better his financial condition. He did not find as congenial a climate as he expected, however, and another removal was made in the autumn of 1848, at which time he settled on a tract of government land in Annawan township, Henry county, which became the old family homestead. It was there the father and mother both died and from there the children departed to build up homes of their own. The youngest son, J. P. Heaps, still resides upon that farm. By unfortunate investments in Wisconsin the father became in straitened circumstances and had a large family of small children to support. He possessed, however, strong arms and a brave heart but had nothing else to assist him when he settled in Henry county. Israel G. Heaps well remembers that in the winter of 1848-9 twelve cents was the postage which had to be paid on the delivery of a letter and on occasions they had to wait some time before the money could be obtained to "lift it." The tract of land on which the family settled was in its natural condition, not a furrow having been turned and there was no shelter for the family until a cabin could be erected. For a few years the struggle for a livelihood was severe but both parents worked hard, practiced the strictest economy and soon succeeded in placing the family in comfort.

In early life Israel G. Heaps had small opportunity for obtaining anything like what would at this day be considered a fair education. He learned to read,

however, and was fond of books, eagerly perusing those which he could obtain. The schools were either non est altogether or were of the same primitive character as the other surroundings, and if there had been the best schools and the best opportunities he could not have availed himself of them for in summer he had to drive five yoke of oxen to a breaking plow and in winter had to haul rails from the woods to fence the farm, although he was not yet twelve years of age. If he could get a day off he would drive a breaking team for some of the neighbors, for which he would receive the munificent sum of twenty-five cents a day. For three winters after reaching his fifteenth year he attended the country schools and by extra exertion succeeded in securing a knowledge of the English branches taught in the district schools that had been established in the neighborhood. Having learned the way to study he made considerable progress in the higher branches. In 1858 he entered the preparatory department of Lombard University, at Galesburg, Illinois, and for several years he taught school and attended that institution alternately. Notwithstanding the interruption in his course he was able to keep his standing in his classes and often acted as tutor. In 1860 he was admitted to the junior year and looked forward confidently to the time when he should complete his course and enter upon the study of law and personally take a part in the work of the world. But the dark clouds of war had been gathering around the horizon of the beautiful sunny south-land and their rumblings were abroad in the ears of the people of the north. On the 12th of April, 1861, the shot was fired upon Fort Sumter that caused the patriotic wrath of the northern people to blaze forth. On the 22d of that month a great war meeting was held in the Baptist church in Annawan, at which speeches were made by Elder Hiram Petteys, J. M. Allan and Elder McDermond, who reviewed the causes leading up to the outbreak of hostilities and in the language of Webster declared "that the Union shall and must be preserved." The call had been made for troops and at the close of the meeting it was decided to raise a company for the war and Mr. Heaps was the first man to put his name on the list of enrolled volunteers, thus being the first man to enlist in Henry county in the great Civil war. He was quickly followed by fifty-three others and when the election for officers of the company was held he was unanimously chosen captain, with H. C. Carroll as first lieutenant and Richard Linnehan as second lieutenant. When the company offered its services to the government it could not be accepted as the six regiments called for were full, and after repeatedly trying to get into the services without success the company was partially disbanded, but on the second call for three hundred thousand more men most of the men went to Camp Butler and joined Company I, of the Twenty-seventh Regiment, which had a full complement of officers of all grades but not enough men. At that time Mr. Heaps was helping to raise Company H, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and as soon as it was full joined his old boys of the Twenty-seventh, with whom he fought for nearly four years, and the history of that grand regiment is part of his war history.

The regiment received its first baptism of fire at Belmont, November 7, 1861,—the first battle in which Grant, Logan, McClelland and others who wrote their names high upon the roll of fame, took an active part. Mr. Heaps, re-enlisting as a veteran, volunteered to serve three years more before his first en-

listment expired and most of the old boys who had not been killed who had enlisted in that first company at Annawan, remained with him. He was always at the front and took an active part in sixty-six battles and heavy skirmishes, among which were Belmont, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Rocky Face, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Franklin, etc. At the battle of Stone River he was severely wounded in the right arm near the shoulder, the bone being shattered. The surgeons wanted to amputate the arm but he refused to let them and as he was young and healthy his wound did nicely and he was ordered to join the invalid corps. This he refused to do and he was then told that he would be discharged from the hospital, but slipping away he joined a party who were being sent to the front and on March 16, 1863, he joined his company at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. At Chickamauga, when Sheridan charged Longstreet's corp, he was shot in the breast and left upon the field for dead, but when the wounded were gathered up it was found he was still alive and he was sent to the hospital at Chattonooga and recovered sufficiently in time to join his company and go with Sheridan on the grand storming and capturing of Missionary Ridge. He then went with his command to East Tennessee to relieve Burnside. The months of January and February were spent among the mountains of Tennessee in fighting Longstreet. In March, 1864, he was granted a veteran's furlough for thirty days and for the first time since entering the service returned to his home to see his mother and the other loved ones he had left when he went to the front.

At the expiration of his furlough Mr. Heaps joined the army which was being massed for the great advance on Atlanta by General Sherman and took part in that glorious campaign, sharing in the hardships, dangers and toils of that "one hundred days of battle." At the battle of Resaca his brother, John B. Heaps, a member of Company A, One Hundred Twelfth Illinois Regiment, was killed and after the shadows of night had drawn a curtain over the bloody work and the fighting had ceased, and only the crack of the rifle of the skirmisher and the moanings of the wounded could be heard, Mr. Heaps received permission to go to the field where the dead had fallen to find the body of his beloved brother. He went alone to the scene of carnage where the forms and faces of those who had died that the nation might live were lying in bewildering confusion, and by the feeble glimmer of a single candle peered into the faces, cold in the awful silence of death, until the one he sought was found, and there in the darkness of the midnight hour the living brother dug the grave for the dead one, wrapped his own blanket about the still form and carried it in his arms to its final resting place beneath a large tree near by. But few more lonely and pathetic scenes were enacted during that long four years struggle than this one on that dark and somber night amid the murmuring pines. How aptly and fittingly can the poem of "The Burial of Sir John Moore" be paraphrased to apply to this event:

"Not a drum was heard nor a funeral note,  
As his body to the grave he carried.  
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot  
O'er the grave where his brother he buried.

He buried him darkly at dead of night,  
The dirt with a shovel turning,  
By no struggling moonbeam's misty light  
And only a candle dimly burning.

No useless coffin enclosed his breast  
Nor in sheet nor in shroud he wound him;  
But he lay like a soldier taking his rest  
With an army blanket around him.

Few and short were the prayers he said  
And he spoke not a word of sorrow,  
But he steadfastly gazed on the face of the dead  
And eagerly thought of the morrow.

He thought as he hollowed his narrow bed,  
And smoothed down his lonely grave,  
That the foe and the strangers would tread on the head  
Of him who in life was so brave.

Lightly they'll talk of the spirit that's gone,  
And o'er his cold ashes upbraid him;  
But little he'll reck if they let him sleep on  
In the grave where a brother has laid him.

Slowly and sadly he laid him down,  
From the field of his fame, fresh and gory.  
He carved not a line, he raised not a stone,  
But left him—Alone with his glory!"

At the battle of Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864, Israel G. Heaps was sent with his own and two other companies to guard a crossing of the creek to keep the Confederates from flanking the Fourth Corps, and although the small band was attacked several times by overwhelming numbers the position was held during the entire afternoon and for the grand and heroic defense made the command was congratulated and thanked in a general order by the division commander. When Sherman swung his army around Atlanta his command was heavily engaged at Jonesboro and rough and ready in driving the enemy from their stronghold, thus forcing the evacuation of Atlanta—the prize for which forty thousand brave soldiers went down in action. When General Sherman decided to cut loose and march to the sea the Fourth Corps, to which Captain Heaps' company belonged, was sent back with the Twenty-third corps to take care of General Hood, who, with the Confederate army, had marched north to invade Tennessee. On November 29, 1864, the armies met at Spring Hill and on the next day at Franklin. Then the hardest and bloodiest battle of the war was fought. While Captain Heaps was on the advance skirmish line in front of the army the enemy flanked him and got in the rear and captured him and his

company. They were sent to Corinth, Jackson, Selma, Cahaba, and finally landed in that death hole, Andersonville. In March, 1865, they were passed through the lines at Vicksburg and from there were sent to St. Louis where the captain was placed in command of three companies in the parole camp and where he remained until his mustering out, June 22, 1865, on account of the close of the war. He was promoted from private to first lieutenant on June 27, 1864, for gallantry at the charge of Kenesaw Mountain, and was afterward mustered into the service as Captain to date, December 15, 1864, by the war department, "for faithful and meritorious service during the war."

Returning to Annawan, Captain Heaps was married to Miss Rhoda A. Petteys to whom he had long been engaged. They settled on a farm belonging to Mrs. Heaps' father and he engaged in teaching school in the winter months, but soon devoted his entire time to farming and stock raising. For many years he was traveling correspondent for the *Drover's Journal*, of Chicago, and in that capacity visited all the states and territories in the west and also Mexico. His letters describing the resources and wonders of that great west and the habits and lore of the ancient inhabitants of that vast district attracted wide attention and comment, not only in this country but in Europe as well. In politics and religion he is independent, not being tied to any party or creed. He was supervisor of Annawan township for ten years and also served as assessor.

Mrs. Heaps was born in New York but came with her parents to Illinois in early girlhood and was educated at Knox College, in Galesburg. Her father was the Rev. Hiram Petteys, a minister of the gospel, and her mother was Susan Brand, of New York. Mrs. Heaps is of Revolutionary stock, her ancestry on both sides taking an active part in the war for independence. Mr. and Mrs. Heaps have had six children, five of whom are living: Irvin P., who resides on his farm in Annawan township; Lilian, who died in early childhood; Clarence E., who is living in Moline and is a contractor and builder; Merrill B., a builder of Moline, now acting as superintendent for his brother; Ross D., who resides in Chicago; and Warren T., a practicing physician and surgeon of Kewanee.

Mr. Heaps has taken an active part in agricultural and live-stock affairs and has been a frequent contributor to the leading agricultural and live stock journals on those subjects. He has also been a speaker of wide repute at farmer's institutes and live-stock associations, and was for several years editor of the *Farmer's Tribune*, of Des Moines, becoming known as one of the most forceful and able writers in that state. In 1892 he left the farm and removed to Kewanee in order that he might better educate his children, and since has devoted his time to looking after his agricultural interests and the welfare of his children.

When the battleship *Maine* was blown up in the harbor of Havana and two hundred and fifty-seven American sailors were lost on the 15th of February, 1898, Mr. Heaps, knowing the strained condition between this country and Spain believed that war was inevitable and each day more fully confirmed him in this belief. Thinking that a call would soon be made for troops, on March 23, 1898, he wrote a letter to the governor tendering his services in any capacity in which they could be used in the event of war. In replying he received the following letter:

"State of Illinois  
Executive Office.  
I. G. Heaps, Esq.,  
Kewanee, Ill.

Springfield, March 25, 1898.

Dear Sir:—

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge your favor of recent date and to thank you for your patriotic offer in the event of war. Your letter will be placed on file in the Adjutant General's office for future reference in the event of a call by the President for troops.

Yours very truly,

J. Mack Tanner,  
Private Secretary."

A few days later he received the following:

Springfield, March 31, 1898.

"State of Illinois  
Adjutant General's office.  
Mr. I. G. Heaps,  
Kewanee, Ill.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your tender of service in the event of war. Thanking you for the same I beg to say that your letter has been placed on file for consideration in the event that war should come.

Very respectfully,

J. N. Reese,  
Adjutant General."

Notwithstanding the early tender of his aid Mr. Heaps was unable to get into the service and take part in the Spanish-American war. He very much regretted this and no reason was ever given for refusing his offer of service in any capacity in which he could be of use to the state and nation.

---

#### CLAUS H. ANDERSON.

No resident of Osco holds a more responsible position in business circles nor a higher place in the esteem and regard of his fellowmen than does Claus H. Anderson, the president and cashier of the Farmers Bank of Osco. He belongs to that class of representative American citizens who claim Sweden as the land of their nativity, his birth there occurring in 1860. His parents were John and Mary (Larson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, the former born in 1814 and the latter in 1817. The family came to the United States in the fall of 1865, settlement being made in Andover, Henry county, Illinois, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits up to the time of his demise. His death occurred in 1903 while his wife passed away in 1895, both being interred in Andover township. Their family consisted of five children: August, a retired farmer of Red Oak, Iowa; Alfred, a farmer residing in Nebraska; Ephraim, also a retired far-

mer, making his home in Nebraska; Clara, the deceased wife of C. G. Johnson, of Linn township, her death occurring in 1895; and Claus H., of this review.

Claus H. Anderson is indebted to the public schools of Linn township for whatever educational advantages enjoyed during the period of his early youth, continuing his studies until thirteen years of age, when he put aside his textbooks and thus early in life crossed the threshold of the business world, earning his own livelihood as a farm hand, being employed by the month, in which capacity he continued for a number of years. He then rented a farm in Linn township, which he operated for fifteen years, at the end of which time he had accumulated sufficient means with which to purchase a farm of his own. He invested in one hundred and twenty acres of land in Osco township and at once directed his entire energies to its further cultivation and improvement. As the years passed he became very successful, his fields yielding rich harvests that proved a source of very gratifying remuneration to him. He still makes his home upon the farm although its active management is left to his son and daughter, his time and attention being fully occupied with his duties as president and cashier of the Farmers Bank of Osco, in which capacity he has served since the inception of that institution in 1908. He is proving himself an excellent official and one in whom his fellow citizens have implicit faith. He is thoroughly identified with the affairs of the institution of which he is chief executive and yet at the same time is true to the interests of each depositor. His opinions are frequently sought by the patrons of the bank and he has become very popular because of the careful consideration and courtesy which is universally extended to the largest and smallest depositor alike.

It was on the 14th of March, 1884, that Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Johnson, a native of Sweden, born in 1862. The parents of Mrs. Anderson were Peter and Molina Johnson, both natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1868 or 1869, settling near Andover, Illinois. They were farming people who at the time of their death were living retired, the father passing away in 1903 and the mother surviving until 1907. In their family were six children, namely: Christine, the wife of Victor Hultgren, residing in Andover township; Emily, who married Charles Eckman of Nebraska; Frank, of Andover township; Tilda, the wife of Bengt Anderson, of Andover; Otto, residing in Andover; and Maggie, who married the subject of this review.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were born four children, namely: Ada, born on the 12th of December, 1886, who attended school in Minnesota and is now at home with her father; Anna, born March 24, 1887, the wife of Elmer Gustafson, of Andover, by whom she has two children, Lester and Chester, twins; Jesse, born December 14, 1889, who is at home and operates his father's farm; and Benjamin, who passed away at the age of two years and was interred beside his mother. Mrs. Anderson was called to her final rest on the 30th of January, 1896, and was buried in Andover township cemetery. She was a most estimable woman, a loving wife and mother and a true friend, and her death was the occasion of deep regret on the part of her many friends.

The religious faith of Mr. Anderson is indicated in his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church of Andover, in which he is serving as deacon. His political affiliations are with the republican party to the principles of which he

gives stalwart support. He has served as collector both of Linn and Osco townships and also as a member of the school board in Linn township, and he is recognized as a public-spirited citizen whose influence and activity are always upon the side of progress, reform, improvement and advancement. Starting out in life to earn his own living at an age when other lads are still busy with their textbooks, Mr. Anderson has worked his way steadily upward through the intervening years until, entirely through his own energy and well directed efforts, he has reached a foremost place among the substantial and well-to-do residents of the township. He not only occupies one of the most responsible positions of trust in the town of Osco, but is also the owner of a very valuable farming property and a fine dwelling in town which he rents, his various interests returning to him a most gratifying annual income. And yet his efforts have not been devoted to his own advancement entirely but have been potent factors in the growth and development of the community at large, the consensus of public opinion according him a high place among the honored and valued citizens of Osco township

---

### R. AUGUSTUS LITTLE.

A life beautiful in its purposes and honorable in its activities was closed in the death of R. Augustus Little. He belonged to a family who were the first white settlers to establish a home in the village of Wethersfield, and there, in a little log cabin, his youthful days were passed while the county was emerging from pioneer conditions and taking on the evidences of a progressive civilization. He was the representative of one of the old New England families. The first of the name in America came to Newbury, Massachusetts, from Unicorn street near London bridge in the city of London in 1640. This was George Little—a man of ability, notable for his fairness in all business transactions. He had four sons, the youngest of whom was Moses Little, who was born in March, 1657, and married Lydia Coffin. They lived in Newbury, Massachusetts, and had three sons and three daughters, of whom Tristram Little, the second child, was born December 9, 1681, and passed away November 11, 1765. He had been married on the 30th of October, 1707, to Sarah Dole, who was born February 12, 1690, and died in 1780. He was a farmer and built in part the house now occupied by William Little of Newbury, Massachusetts—the building having now stood for more than a century and a quarter. The next in line of descent was Henry Little, the second child and eldest son of Tristram and Sarah (Dole) Little. He was born December 31, 1710, and died in November, 1786. His marriage was celebrated December 7, 1738, on which date he wedded his cousin Lydia Little, who was born August 25, 1717, and died February 4, 1798. Henry Little was a man of great physical strength and was noted for his liberal and warm-hearted hospitality and open-handed style of living. He became the father of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, of whom his namesake, Henry Little, Jr., was the fifth child. His birth occurred November 26, 1747, and his death April 27, 1807. In June, 1770, he married Elizabeth Bailey, of Salem, New Hampshire, who was born June 6, 1752, and died September 21,

1803. Henry Little II was a farmer and made his home in Salem, New Hampshire. Unto him and his wife were born six sons and two daughters, including Bailey Little, the grandfather of R. Augustus Little. He was born in Salem, New Hampshire, February 1, 1774, and died September 8, 1863.

Abner Bailey Little, the representative of the family in the sixth generation in the direct line of descent to R. Augustus Little, married Miss Nancy Tenney, a daughter of William and Phebe (Jewett) Tenney. Mrs. Nancy Little was born at Hollis, New Hampshire, January 29, 1782, and died July 9, 1847. While in New England Abner Bailey Little resided in Salem, Goffstown and Hollis, New Hampshire. A native of Hollis, New Hampshire, R. A. Little spent his early boyhood days there and at the age of eleven years started with his parents and three sisters for the west. They left their New England home October 4, 1836, and traveling after the slow and difficult manner which the pioneers knew so well, over roads which at times were almost impassable and at times led through dense forests, at length reached Peoria, Illinois, on the 3d of November. From that point they proceeded a short distance to French Grove, where they spent the winter of 1836-7. On the 1st of March of the latter year the little party arrived in Wethersfield and made their home in a small log cabin at the edge of the woods. There was no settlement at Wethersfield as yet, the site of the town being marked only by a few poles tied together at the top that had been left by the Indians, and seventeen years were added to the cycle of the centuries before Kewanee was founded. The Black Hawk war had occurred only five years before, and there were many traces of Indian occupancy yet to be found in this part of the state. Nature was lavish in her resources, however, for the rich soil responded readily to the care and labor bestowed upon it after the first arduous work was done in breaking the prairie. The Little family lived in the primitive log cabin until the township was surveyed, a short time later, when Abner Bailey Little, the father, being the oldest man in the colony, through the courtesy of the other members was given the first choice of farms and chose that desirable location which was in the possession of his son, R. A. Little, for sixty-two years and is still owned and conducted by the family as a dairy and stock farm. In the fall of 1837 there was erected upon the place a substantial log cabin which is still in a state of good preservation. It contained but one room with a loft above, yet in the winter of 1837-8 it sheltered sixteen persons. Many were the happy family reunions held within its walls and on Sunday it was frequently the meeting-place of those who gathered for divine worship. This log cabin has now been enclosed that it may stand for many years to come, it being the oldest log house in this section of Illinois at the present time. Abner Bailey Little continued a resident of this county until his death, September 8, 1863, the years of his active life being devoted to farming. He was the father of twelve children, of whom Rodney Augustus Little was the eleventh in order of birth.

As his father was unable to do manual labor R. Augustus Little, though but a boy of twelve years, took upon himself the care of his parents as he was the only remaining son, the other brothers having their home and families to care for. The hardships and privations of pioneer life were a part of his daily lot, and his labors were too severe for one of his years, yet he never faltered nor

complained. He spent many a day following behind a wooden plow and driving a team of oxen in order to break the sod which was hitherto uncultivated by the white man. He was ambitious to secure an education and utilized every opportunity toward this end. He paid for his schooling—as there were no public schools at that time—by work which was done on farms, often by moonlight at night, or on an occasional day that he might spare from other duties. He told of walking eight miles on one occasion carrying a basket in which were two iron wedges, an ax and a maul. With his implements he felled the trees, cut them into ten-foot lengths and split them into rails to the number of one hundred as one day's work to pay for school privileges. In the early days markets were far distant, the farmers having to go to Peoria or Chicago with their produce. It was a thirteen days' trip with a lumber wagon, and they received only thirty-seven and a half cents per bushel for the best winter wheat. It cost at that time twenty-five cents to send a letter through the postoffice, and it is no wonder that correspondence was not very vigorously kept up between the pioneers of the western prairie and their old friends in the east. The early settlers, however, gave from their scanty earnings sufficient means to erect a schoolhouse and support a school and also to build a little church.

Mr. Little's love for music and desire to benefit by its refining influence led him to take his earnings to Chicago where he received instruction under such talented teachers as Lowell Mason, William B. Bradbury, Frank Lombard and others. Later he purchased a violoncello, this being the first musical instrument of any kind in the township. With this to sustain the singing at the age of eighteens years he began his long career of service in the church as chorister, covering a period of over forty years with no remuneration but the satisfaction of having done his duty. He led the singing in the old log schoolhouse that was used as a church on Sundays, afterward in the first log church, and later in the First Baptist church. He subsequently acted as chorister in the Wethersfield Congragational church and in the Congregational church at Kewanee and was chosen as the leader of the choir at the dedication of the present Methodist church of Kewanee. When the Presbyterian church was organized he acted for many years in the same capacity, being also president of the board of trustees at the time his death. If he could assist the cause of Christ he made no distinction in denominations. He taught music, not only to his family, among whose members an orchestra was maintained for many years, but also gave instruction in music in Saxon, Elmira and surrounding villages.

On the 8th of April, 1852, Mr. Little was united in marriage to Miss Lavantia Irwin, who was born in Courtright, New York, May 6, 1832. They became parents of ten children: Ralph I., Walter A., Frank E., Clarence F., Clara, Louis H., Mary A., Nancy E., Roy A. and Charles T. The death of Mr. Little occurred August 29, 1899, and on the occasion of his burial, on the 31st of that month, a large concourse of neighbors and friends joined to pay their last tribute of honor and respect to one whose life was largely blameless, whose purposes were honorable and whose good deeds were manifold. Mr. Little was never too busy to aid a fellowman, to speak a word of kindly counsel or encouragement or to extend a helping hand if such were needed. It is fitting, therefore, that one of the finest monuments in the Wethersfield cemetery has been erected to

his memory and will live to tell through future generations that the community lost one of its most valued and prominent citizens when he was called to the home beyond.

---

### ALBERT WILLIAM WEIMER.

Albert William Weimer is one of the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Henry county and in the management of his business affairs displays keen discernment, unfaltering enterprise and sound judgment. He now makes his home in Geneseo, from which point he superintends his extensive interests. He was born in this county, August 11, 1865, and is a son of William and Susanna (Heller) Weimer, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. He is associated with his father in his business enterprise and further mention of the family is made in connection with the sketch of William Weimer on another page of this work.

The subject of this review has spent his entire life in the county of his nativity, his youthful days being passed on the home farm and when he had mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools he continued his education in the Geneseo high school and in the Northwestern Normal, also attending the Davenport Business College. He thus received training which well qualified him for onerous duties which have devolved upon him in the management of his property interests. He resided upon his father's farm until recent years and became a partner with his father in the operation of the old home place in Geneseo township, where they were owners of seven hundred acres. They also owned large bodies of land in Thomas county, Kansas, having altogether eleven thousand acres. In 1898 Mr. Weimer removed from the farm to Geneseo, where for seven years he was engaged in the grain business but for the past three years has concentrated his energies upon his investments in agricultural and manufacturing interests. He is now engaged in the manufacture of building stone, does contract work and has erected many substantial buildings in different cities, including the handsome armory in Geneseo. He is likewise a director and the vice president of the Geneseo Savings Bank and his name is an honored one on all commercial papers. In the fall of 1909 Mr. Weimer and his father erected an auditorium and garage, being seventy-five feet front on First street and one hundred and thirty feet in depth. The structure is two stories in height; of rubble vitrified brick; is modern in all its appointments and a handsome addition to the business section of Geneseo.

On the 11th of January, 1887, Mr. Weimer was united in marriage to Miss Ella Tilfer, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Miller) Tilfer. Mrs. Weimer was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1869. Her parents were also natives of the Keystone state and they had two children, Ella B. and Belle. After the death of his first wife the father married again and there were two sons and three daughters of that union. Mr. Tilfer passed away in Nebraska, in which state his sons also died. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Weimer have been born eight children, five sons and three daughters: Harry W., Lillie D., Harley A.,

Archie H., Vernie Howard, Frank H., Eva E. and Iva B. Mrs. Weimer is a member of the Unitarian church.

Mr. Weimer belongs to the Odd Fellows society, holding membership in Geneseo Lodge and Indian Encampment, while both he and his wife are connected with the Rebekahs, Mrs. Weimer having filled all of the chairs in the order while at the present time she is a past grand. Mr. Weimer also holds membership relations with the Yeomen, the Mystic Workers and the Modern Woodmen and Mrs. Weimer with the Royal Neighbors and the Ladies Circle. They are people of many social qualities, whose friendship is cherished by all who know them. Politically Mr. Weimer is a stalwart republican and for one term served as alderman from the second ward. He is a zealous advocate of the cause of education and while living on the farm served as a school director. He is an alert and enterprising business man, rejoicing in the opportunities for activity and in the improvement of chances which have come to him he has found the success which places him in prominent positions among the leading business men of this part of the state.

---

#### DANIEL OLMSTEAD HINMAN.

Daniel Olmstead Hinman, one of the agricultural community of Osco township, was born on the farm on which he now lives, September 17, 1868, and is a son of William White and Clara (Olmstead) Hinman. The father was a native of Connecticut and was a son of Willis Hinman. He brought his family across the prairies from Dayton, Ohio, in the winter of 1850-51, and entered land in Henry county, Illinois, for which he paid one dollar and a quarter an acre. During the progress of the Civil war William W. Hinman became a soldier in the Union army, having enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served for three years, during which period he took part in many hard fought battles and participated in Sherman's march to the sea and in the grand review at Washington, D. C. Although always at his post of duty, Mr. Hinman was never wounded, though he was ill for a time. When his country no longer needed his aid, he returned to the farm and took up the life he had left, and was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until a paralytic stroke compelled his retirement and removal to Cambridge. There, in February, 1893, he passed away.

Daniel Olmstead Hinman spent his boyhood upon the home farm, assisting in its work as soon as he was able. He attended the district schools and went later to the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, at which his formal education was completed and from which he went forth to make his own way in the world. First he secured employment in the elevator and lumberyards of Elliott Hinman at Cambridge, where he continued to work until his father's incapacity compelled him to return home and assume the management of the farm. This embraces one hundred ninety-three and a half acres of the father's estate and is situated on section 26, Osco township. To its cultivation Mr. Hinman has devoted himself for the last twenty years.

In Osco township, February 2, 1889, he married Miss Kate Purviance, a native of Osco township and a daughter of David and Hannah (Morton) Purviance. They have two children: Earl Herbert, who was born in Cambridge and is a graduate of the high school there; and Gladys Elizabeth, an interesting little daughter. Mr. Hinman has always given his support to the republican party, with which he finds himself in closest accord, but he has never sought public preferment. He is a member of Grace Episcopal church, Osco. Fraternally he is connected with Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., and among his fellow members has made many stanch friends.

---

### AUGUST H. MAGERKURTH.

August H. Magerkurth is now a retired farmer living in Geneseo. Through the period of early manhood and through the prime of life he was diligently employed in the work of the fields and since 1901 has been enabled by reason of his former success to enjoy a well earned rest. He was born in Hanover, Germany, September 3, 1839, and was one of the five children of Frederick and Wilhelmina (Gremmes) Magerkurth. The father engaged in farming on a small scale in Germany, where he remained until 1871 when he came to America and lived with his son August in Clinton county, Iowa, remaining with him until shortly prior to his death. He passed away at the home of his daughter near Port Byron in Rock Island county, Illinois, in 1892 when seventy-seven years of age. His wife had died in Germany about 1867. Both were consistent members of the Lutheran church. Their family numbered four sons and one daughter.

August H. Magerkurth, who was the eldest and is the only one now living, was reared and educated in Germany, spending his youthful days on his father's farm. In 1864 when twenty-five years of age he came to America, settling at Hampton, Rock Island county, Illinois, where he worked at farming by the month. He was desirous of engaging in business for himself that he might enjoy the profits of his own labors and in 1867 with the money which he had saved from his earnings he purchased sixty acres of land in Clinton county, Iowa, removing thereon in 1868. At length he sold that property and made investment in eighty acres in Edford township, Henry county, Illinois, where he lived until 1892. He then purchased fifty acres in Geneseo township near the city of Geneseo and lived upon that farm for about nine years or until 1901 when he removed to Geneseo and has since made his home on West North street. He has disposed of his farm property and now lives retired for his financial resources are sufficient to supply him with the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

On the 8th of September, 1867, Mr. Magerkurth was married to Miss Maria Garnett, a native of Saxe, Germany, and a daughter of Henry Garnett, who was a blacksmith by trade. They have become the parents of twelve children, six sons and six daughters: Henry, the eldest, a farmer of Osco township, married Anna Ernst and they have four children, Ida, Walter, Albert and Edward; Frederick, Johan and Wilhelm, all died of diphtheria when young; Emma is the wife of John Fisher; Louis is at home; Wilhelmina is the wife of Albert Stensel and they have

two children, Helen and Elmer; Margaretta, George, Anna and Clara are all yet under the parental roof; and Fred died in Clinton county, Iowa.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Magerkurth are members of the Lutheran church and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has served as road overseer and was school director in both Edford and Geneseo townships. Never remiss in the duties of citizenship he cooperated in many movements for the general good but his attention was chiefly directed to his farming interests and his work as an agriculturist was crowned with a substantial measure of success.

---

### WILLIAM DAVIS COLBY.

Among the leading, respected and representative citizens of Henry county is numbered William Davis Colby, who is now following farming on section 25, Cornwall township. He is the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of rich and valuable land near Atkinson and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates him to be a man of excellent business judgment and progressive methods. He was born at Clary's Grove, Menard county, Illinois, November 25, 1838, and is a son of Jonathan and Lydia (Ingalls) Colby. The father was a native of Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and the mother of Abington, Connecticut. Each had gone to Menard county when single and there became acquainted and were married. The paternal grandfather, Timothy Colby, was also a native of Hopkinton, where he spent his days on the old homestead which had been the property of his father, William Davis Colby. The family for generations has been identified with agricultural interests. It was in the year 1834 that Jonathan Colby arrived in Menard county. He had previously acquired a good education and had spent two years in Boston. He was born in 1808 and was, therefore, about twenty-six years of age when he sought a home in the middle west. He brought with him some capital, which he invested in land, making the purchase from "Slicky Bill" Green—the man who sold Abraham Lincoln his store. In Menard county Jonathan Colby was married and spent his remaining days, giving his time and attention to general farming.

William Davis Colby remained with his father until he went away to school, pursuing his studies in Lee Center Academy in Lee county, Illinois, through two winters, while later he attended the North Sangamon Academy in Menard county for a short time. He began teaching in the country schools in Menard county, devoting two winter seasons to that profession. He was a young man of twenty-three years when, on the 11th of August, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was sent to Camp Butler at Springfield and was first under fire at Jackson, Mississippi. He also participated in the siege of Vicksburg, was again at Jackson and was in the engagement at Guntown or Brice's Cross Roads, where he was captured, being sent thence to Andersonville. Later he was transferred to Savannah, Georgia, then to Millen, afterward was returned to Savannah and subsequently was taken to Florence, South Carolina, and to Goldsboro, North Carolina. While at the latter place he was paroled and sent to Wilmington, North



WILLIAM D. COLBY



Carolina, after which he returned to Menard county. The food supplies at Florence were so scarce that he was nearly starved and suffered from break-bone fever and when the company left there he was forced to remain because of his illness. He was held as a prisoner of war for eight and a half months and as the result of the incarceration continued in ill health until after the close of hostilities. As soon as possible he resumed farming, however, and on the 31st of August, 1866, came to Annawan township and purchased a farm of two hundred acres of wild land, which he began to prepare for a home.

On the 16th of January, 1868, Mr. Colby was married in Menard county to Miss Mary E. Dodds, a native of Sangamon county, Illinois, born November 2, 1840, and a daughter of the Rev. Gilbert and Mary (Clinton) Dodds, who removed to Menard county when their daughter, Mrs. Colby, was but six years of age. She acquired a good education and taught school at one time. Five children were born of this union. Alfred Ingalls, who was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1888, afterward entered the business college in Davenport. He was married in Geneseo, February 9, 1893, to Miss Eva Blanche Vail and later went to Andrew county, Missouri, where he engaged in farming. At his death, which was occasioned by the falling of a tree March 24, 1899, he left two children: Mary Ruth and William Davis. Lydia, who was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in the class of 1890, afterward taught in the country schools and in 1895 entered the normal school at Normal, Illinois, where she completed the course in two years. She then engaged in teaching in Kewanee for two years. She received her diploma in 1899 and was then appointed critic teacher in the second and third grades in the normal school at DeKalb by President John W. Cook. She held that position for one year and then became ill as the result of an injury sustained while playing basketball at the normal. Alice Dodds, who was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in the class of 1890, later attended the Columbia School of Oratory in Chicago, from which she was graduated in 1898. She was married on the 20th of October of the same year to Rev. William George Ramsey, who is now pastor of the Congregational church at Eldora, Iowa, where they make their home. Mary died in infancy. William Davis Colby, the fifth to bear that name in different generations, attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and also the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, but left school on account of ill health. He was married December 25, 1901, to Miss Fannie Jane Vail, of Geneseo. He is a farmer in Cornwall and has two children, Alfred Vail and William George.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. William Davis Colby lived in Annawan until 1877, when he purchased a farm on section 27, Cornwall township, of one hundred and sixty acres. He made it his home for a few years and in 1885 purchased his present farm on section 35, Cornwall township. He is today one of the extensive landowners of the county and one of the leading citizens. His wife died May 19, 1907, and was laid to rest in the Liberty Congregational cemetery in Cornwall township.

Mr. Colby is a republican and attended the big rally at Springfield in 1860. He always supported the party since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, whom he heard deliver a temperance speech when Mr. Colby was

a small boy. In community affairs Mr. Colby has taken an active and helpful interest. He has served as school treasurer for many years and was supervisor for one term. He belongs to the Baptist church of Tallula, Illinois, and his daughter Lydia, who is now acting as his housekeeper, is a member of the Congregational church and is also connected with the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Geneseo.

---

### WILLIAM HAMPTON STURM.

Despite many hardships and discouragements William Hampton Sturm has come out ahead in the battle of life. His industry, thrift and perseverance, as well as his determination to win have overcome great obstacles, and he is now one of the prosperous farmers of Henry county, Illinois. In all he owns two hundred and sixty-six acres in Munson township, a part of it on section 12 where he lives, the remainder on section 13. A native of this state, he was born in Peoria county, February 18, 1850, a son of William and Mary Ann (Swiger) Sturm. He was reared on a farm, which remained his home until he became twenty-one, and received a good common-school education. His father owned a farm in Peoria county, on which he worked even after his parents removed to Stark county, in 1871, where the father had purchased another farm. He went to that county, however, a few years later when the father desired to work at his trade of blacksmithing. In 1875 he built a barn on the home place which continued to be his place of residence until he was twenty-nine years of age, when he bought eighty acres of land in Stark county. There he lived in bachelor's quarters for about two years, making a good home for himself, and to it brought his bride in 1881. A short time after his marriage he sold the Stark county farm and went to Marion county, Kansas, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of improved land. The move was not a fortunate one, however, for his crops failed him entirely and after a year and a half there he lost all he had started with and was compelled to look for work by the day as means of subsistence.

Mr. Sturm rented a house at Osceola, Stark county, Illinois, but after three months removed to Elmira township, that county, where he secured work by the day. The following summer he rented land, raised a good crop and made a fresh start. He continued to rent land, however, until 1899, when he bought one hundred and twenty acres in Annawan township, this county. This he sold after a few months with a little profit and in 1903 bought his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He paid sixty-six dollars an acre for the property, but it has so increased in value in the last six years that it is now worth more than twice that amount. Since coming to this farm fortune has smiled on Mr. Sturm, his crops have thrived and his harvests have been bountiful, and in 1909 he was able to purchase one hundred and forty-four more acres at one hundred and eighteen dollars per acre. He follows general farming but is also a breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs.

In Toulon, Stark county, May 9, 1881, was celebraed the marriage of Mr. Sturm to Miss Sarah Allett Woodward, a daughter of Daniel and Mary A. (Hol-



MRS. WILLIAM D. COLBY



labaugh) Woodward. She was born in Stark county and received a fair education from the country schools. Their union has been blessed with seven children: Loren Nelson, born in Stark county, living at home; Rose Raymond, also born in Stark county, living at home; Jessie, born in Stark county, the wife of Louie Schnowske, of Munson township; one who died in infancy; Lloyd, born one mile east of Neponset; Glen, born in Bureau county; and Iva, born in Annawan township, Henry county.

In political matters Mr. Sturm gives his support to the democratic party, and while he is not an office seeker he served for one term as road commissioner in Stark county. When he was a resident of Toulon he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but has not kept up his membership. Courage, fortitude and indomitable industry are the qualities that distinguish Mr. Sturm's life record. By these he has been able to conquer misfortune and by these he has been able to attain to a substantial position among the citizens of Munson township, among whom he has many friends who wish him well and are rejoiced at his success.

---

### JOHN FISCHER.

John Fischer, organizer and president of the Kewanee Savings Bank, is also connected with various other interests, which make his life record an integral chapter in the history of the city's business development and upbuilding. To those familiar with his life it seems trite to say that he is a self-made man who has worked his way upward from a humble beginning, but in a history that descends to future generations it is but just to say of him that his record is such as any man might be proud to possess in that he has never made engagements that he has not fulfilled nor incurred obligation that he has not met. He, therefore, enjoys in large measure the respect and confidence of his business colleagues and associates, and the wise use which he has made of his time, talents and opportunities constitutes an example that may well be followed by others.

Mr. Fischer was born in Schaffhausen, Prussia, Germany, February 20, 1858. and in the year 1870 was brought to America by his parents, Peter and Marguerite Fischer, who arrived in Kewanee in June of that year. His father, who had been a carpenter and mine boss in Germany, worked in the mines of Henry county for a number of years or until his death which occurred in 1878. His widow long survived him and died in 1892 at the age of seventy-two years.

John Fischer attended the public schools of his native land until coming to America when a youth of twelve years. He afterward spent two years as a pupil in a country school of Kewanee township and then began his business career by working in the mines with his father. He was thus employed for three weeks, which he says was one of the happiest periods of his life. It gave him his first days of earning his own money and the feeling of independence which comes therefrom. He afterward worked on a farm for two years and on the expiration of that period began delivering groceries for the firm of Wood & Lewis. When that partnership was dissolved and he was in consequence thrown out of employ-

ment, he secured a situation with the Haxtun Steam Heater Company at seventy-five cents per day, but three months later L. W. Lewis again embarked in the grocery business and Mr. Fischer once more entered his employ, a fact indicative of his faithfulness as well as his capability. He afterward spent one year as a salesman in the employ of M. C. Quinn, and at the end of that time he purchased the store owned by Mr. Lewis and continued in the grocery business alone for three years. He was then senior partner of the firm of Fischer & Mayhew from 1884 until 1889, when he sold out to his partner and entered the real-estate loan business, his previous success equipping him for the conduct of a business of this character. He did the largest business in his line in the city. In 1890 he purchased stock in the First National Bank, of which he afterward became a director, and for five years he was vice president of the institution. He is now secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Kewanee Coal & Mining Company, and various other enterprises owe their successful conduct in no small degree to his indefatigable industry and sound business judgment. In November, 1901, he organized the Savings Bank of Kewanee and from the beginning has been its president, instituting the policy of its conduct upon which its success has been built. He also organized the Fischer Lumber Company of Kewanee, Missouri, which town was named in honor of his home city, Kewanee, Illinois. He is now the president of that company and is still a stockholder in the First National Bank. His business judgment is sound and his success is largely due in fact to his recognition and improvement of opportunities which others have passed by heedlessly.

On the 2d of October, 1883, was celebrated the marriage of John Fischer and Miss Etta R. Lyle, a daughter of George and Sarah (Snugs) Lyle. Mr. and Mrs. Fischer have three living children: Dr. Haydn L., a graduate of the University of Chicago and the Northwestern Medical University of Chicago, has been admitted to practice and is now an interne in Chicago. J. Emmons is a teller in the Savings Bank of Kewanee. George Lyle is still in school.

Mr. Fischer has been a stalwart advocate of the republican party since casting his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield, but is not an aspirant for office. In his religious belief he is a Catholic and in his social relations is connected with the Kewanee and Commercial Clubs. When once he marks out a course for himself he follows it with tenacity and he has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, while in his dealings he is known for his prompt and honorable methods which have won him the deserved and unqualified confidence of his fellowmen.

---

#### ANDREW WEIDLEIN.

Andrew Weidlein, the owner of valuable farming property in Osco township, is now living retired in Geneseo, where he has made his home for fifteen years. Earnest, persistent labor and the intelligent direction of his business efforts in former days brought to him the success which he now enjoys. He was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1840, his parents being John and Eleonora (Emert) Weidlein, both of whom were natives of Germany. The grand-

father, John Weidlein, was likewise born in the same country and was a worthy representative of the Teutonic race. Attracted by the opportunities of the new world he came to America and devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, until his labors were ended in death. His wife also died there. The family numbered three sons and two daughters. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Andrew Emert. He and his wife, Margaret Emert, also became residents of Pennsylvania when they crossed the briny deep to the new world. In that state Mrs. Emert died and Mr. Emert afterward removed to Henry county, Illinois. His death occurred in Morristown, this state, when he had traveled far on life's journey. Their family numbered eleven children.

John Weidlein, the father of Andrew Weidlein, was a blacksmith by trade. On coming to America he settled in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and in the fall of 1851 arrived in Rock Island. Soon afterward he took up his abode at Morristown, Henry county, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. He entered six hundred and forty acres of land in Osco township in his own name, and although the major part of it was wild and unimproved when it came into his possession he at once began its development and devoted three years to tilling the soil. He then sold out and removed to another farm comprising three hundred and twenty acres in Edford township, upon which place he lived until his removal to Geneseo, or about 1883. The remaining years of his life were spent in honorable retirement, for the fruits of his former toil were sufficient to enable him to rest without further recourse to labor in order to meet his expenses. He remained an honored and respected citizen of Geneseo for twenty years, or until his death in 1903, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-nine years. His wife died in 1894 when about eighty years of age. Both were consistent members of the Lutheran church. When in Germany Mr. Weidlein served for three years in the regular army. Of the thirteen children born unto him and his wife seven are now living: Andrew, Philip, Louis, Jacob, George, Edward, and Valentine.

Andrew Weidlein was only eleven years of age when the family left the Keystone state and came to Henry county. Here he was reared on the home farm and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he cultivates his fields and cares for his live stock. He mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools and when not busy with his text-books was usually employed in some work on the farm. He remained at home until he reached adult age and then, deciding to engage in business on his own account, he bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Edford township from his father. There he lived for four years, after which he bought two hundred and forty acres of land in Osco township. The years chronicled his prosperity, and as time passed and his financial resources increased he added to his Osco township farm until within its boundaries are included four hundred and sixty-five acres, which he still owns. At one time he had one thousand acres. He has sold his Edford township farm but his real-estate holdings are now valuable, and he derives therefrom a good rental. For fifteen years he has lived in Geneseo, leasing his farm to others. It is a finely improved property and therefore brings to him a good return.

On the 3d of April, 1864, occurred the marriage of Mr. Weidlein and Miss Sarah Elizabeth Conrad, who was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, January 19, 1844. Her parents, Allimon and Elizabeth (Pierce) Conrad were also natives of the Keystone state, and the latter was a daughter of John and Mary (Rice) Pierce. In the year 1856 Mr. and Mrs. Conrad arrived in Henry county, living most of the time near Morristown during the period of their residence here. The father passed away at the age of fifty-five years, and the mother was almost ninety years of age at the time of her death. She came of a family noted for longevity, for her father reached the age of ninety-six years and her mother was ninety-three years of age when called to the home beyond.

Mr. and Mrs. Weidlein have become the parents of three sons and five daughters: William Elmer, who now cultivates the old home place, married Miss Kittie Marlatt, and they have two children, Grace and Cleone; Joseph Clyde, living in Des Moines, Iowa, wedded Anna Glen, and they have five children, Boyd, Mildred, June, Oral, and Wilma; Mary L. is the wife of Harry King, of Champaign, Illinois, and their five children are Jessie, Hazel, Laura, Florence and Henry; Elnora E. is the wife of John Schroeder, a farmer of Edford township, and they have two children, Lucille K. and John Arley; Arthur, who died March 2, 1909, had married Gertie Rogers and at his death left a daughter, Marie; Margaret Jessie died at the age of eleven years; Carrie A. is the wife of Louis A. Schroeder, of Edford township, and they have two children, Merl and Kenneth; and Laura Edith, the youngest of the family, is the wife of Louis B. Rastede, of Geneseo, and they have one daughter, Marjorie.

The parents are members of the Congregational church and are interested in all those things which pertain to the uplifting of mankind and the betterment of the community at large. Politically Mr. Weidlein is a democrat and has rendered capable service in public office as road commissioner, pathmaster, supervisor and school director. Being nearly killed by a drunken man when a little boy, he has become a staunch supporter of prohibition. So situated in life as to enjoy its comforts he and his family delight in dispensing the hospitality of their home to their many friends and in cooperating in movements which are directly beneficial to town and county.

---

#### ROBERT E. TAYLOR.

Robert E. Taylor, whose life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, is today numbered among the substantial citizens of Kewanee, the extent and importance of his business operations being such as to warrant his classification with the leading and representative men of the city. He was one of the organizers and has continuously been cashier of the Kewanee National Bank, and his wise counsel and indefatigable enterprise have also been salient factors in the successful conduct of other interests. A native of Canal, Venango county, Pennsylvania, he was born on the 21st of May, 1862, of the marriage of John and Lavina (Deets) Taylor. The father, a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois in 1866 and settled in Burns township, Henry county,

where he purchased land, still owning three hundred and twenty acres there. He was descended from one of three brothers who arrived in America in colonial days, coming from Scotland, their native country, and taking up their abode in New Jersey, where they followed the occupation of farming. Later one of the number removed to Pennsylvania and became the progenitor of the line from which R. F. Taylor descends. Another of the brothers went to Massachusetts and the third to Virginia. Robert Taylor, the great-grandfather, enlisted as a soldier in the Continental army during the Revolutionary war, was captured by the British and made to take the oath of allegiance to the king. He remained, however, most loyal in spirit to the American cause. He took his family within the lines of the colonial army, where they did cooking for the soldiers. During the progress of the war he was sent by General Wool with dispatches to General Washington, and in order to reach the commander-in-chief he had to swim the icy waters of the Susquehanna river, for it was winter time, to escape the English. He safely reached the opposite bank, delivered his messages and in return received from General Washington messages for General Wool. He then swam the river again and ultimately reached his destination. The family continued residents of Pennsylvania until John Taylor removed to Illinois. He became a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1887 and has since lived retired there. Ten years before he had purchased a section of land, which he has improved and to the general supervision of which he yet gives attention. He also retains his farming interests in Henry county, and, as in all of his business affair, his interests have been so intelligently directed that prosperity has resulted. He entered banking circles in connection with the Columbia National Bank, of which he was a director until its consolidation with the First National Bank, when he retired. His business probity was ever above question, and his enterprise and industry constitute the foundation upon which he built his success. While residing in Henry county he was also prominent and influential in the public life of the community, serving for three years as supervisor of Burns township, also as school director for twenty years or more—the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion.

Robert E. Taylor supplemented his preliminary education, acquired in the public schools, by study in Hillsdale College at Hillsdale, Michigan, where he was graduated with the class of 1885. After finishing his course there he went to Lincoln, Nebraska, and entered business circles as a clerk in a hardware store, where he remained for about a year. He then returned to Kewanee and purchased an interest in the hardware store of Dickey & Houle, with whom he continued for three years, when he sold out and again went to Lincoln, Nebraska, to which city his parents had removed in the meantime. There he entered the American Exchange Bank as collector and bookkeeper with the object of learning the banking business in principle and detail for the purpose of gaining experience that he might establish a bank of his own at a later day. He remained with that institution for about two years. Returning to Kewanee, after consulting a number of his friends and former business associates and thoroughly investigating the outlook, he organized the present Kewanee National Bank and has been its cashier since its inception. His equipment was good, his enterprise undaunted, and in the conduct of the institution he has carefully formulated his plans and carried them forward to successful completion. In 1903 he extended the field of his activities

by becoming one of the organizers of the State Bank of Toulon and still continues as one of its directors. Since the organization of the Kewanee Star-Courier Company he has been a director and treasurer and is now also vice president of the same corporation. Mr. Taylor has invested quite largely in real estate in Kewanee and has been interested in a number of additions to the city and in the erection of a number of residences, whereby the attractive appearance of the city has been materially enhanced. He owns a business block on East Second street, also a brick block on Third street between Tremont and Main and has a frame business house adjoining it. He also has two hundred and forty acres of land at Lincoln, Nebraska, opposite W. J. Bryan's home at that place, and is interested in the First National Bank of Lincoln and some residence property. He has a magnificent country home at Sylvan Beach, Michigan, where he and his family spend their summer vacations.

On the 29th of October, 1896, was celebrated the marriage of Robert E. Taylor and Miss Charity R. Palmer, of Kewanee, a daughter of Grove and Hannah Elizabeth (Livingstone) Palmer. Her father, a farmer by occupation, died in the year 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two children, Margaret Elizabeth and Robert R. They are prominent socially, and Mr. Taylor holds membership in the Baptist church and his wife in the Congregational church. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias. His has been an active career in which he has accomplished important and far-reaching results, contributing in no small degree to the expansion and material growth of the city and from which he himself has also derived substantial benefits.

---

### FREDERICK FRANCIS.

Frederick Francis, with highly developed artistic perception, takes genuine pleasure in having everything about him as perfect as his own good taste and skillful fingers can make it and therefore his is an attractive home amid beautiful surroundings. The material things, however, are not given undue prominence with him but are only a feature in that existence which should present the best that can be attained along material, intellectual, artistic and moral lines. He was born in Kewanee township, January 21, 1856, and was reared upon the home farm of his parents, Sullivan R. and Mary (Gardner) Francis. During his youthful days he attended district schools and at the age of eighteen entered the State University, from which he was graduated in 1878, being the first student that Kewanee sent to that institution. When he left he had placed his mark upon the seven foot dial clock in the west tower of what is now the oldest of the university buildings, for he made the drawings for that time piece, built the escapement and assisted in setting it up and it is still keeping excellent time. The clock was donated as a memorial by the class of 1878.

Having completed his scholastic course, Mr. Francis entered the employ of the Elgin Watch Company and after eleven years spent in its factory returned to Kewanee. The love of the beautiful and the artistic has ever been a dominant quality in his life and with a desire to establish a beautiful home he secured one of the best sites in Henry county, four and a half miles east of Kewanee. Thereon

he erected a residence of stone and brick after designs and plans made entirely by himself, doing every detail of the building alone, not paying out one cent for help, and the place is appropriately named Woodland Palace. It is one of the most artistic homes in the county and is supplied with many conveniences of his own design, including a filter for rain water, by means of which he secures a water supply system that provides the family with absolutely pure water. Mrs. Francis, who presides with gracious hospitality over this attractive residence, was Jeanette E. Rice and afterward Jeanette E. Crowfoot. She was formerly a resident of Elgin, Illinois, and on the 10th of August, 1890, gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Francis.

Having a great love for the sixty acres of forest trees that was left him by his father, Mr. Francis has not cleared his land or done any farming but lets it only for pasture. He has been an interested student of mathematics, having among the wall decorations of his home a frame containing about a square yard of drawing paper, on which is the abbreviated form of a difficult problem of circles that was solved after eight years of seeking and then only by an original method not found in the text-books. The work required the finding of an unknown quantity, which if put in the form of an equation, would be of about the twentieth degree and contain about one thousand terms. Not content with development alone along the line of the practical, however, Mr. Francis has studied oil painting and some of his works display a high order of talent. He has also devoted considerable time to literary work and has contributed a number of articles to various magazines on the subject of physical culture.

A man of wide reading and deep thought, those questions of vital national interest have always elicited his attention and that he thinks out along original lines is indicated in an article from his pen which appeared in the Physical Culture Magazine, entitled Our Idea of Arbitration. In this he said: "I have read what you have to say about Arbitration and Japan, and it makes me wish to express an idea that I have in regard to the disarmament of nations. To illustrate, let me suppose a country of individuals without law, each carrying a gun for defense. Now somebody suggests that these individuals arbitrate instead of using guns. The difficulty is that it takes two to arbitrate and this they will do or not as they feel like. The individuals could not be expected to discard their guns unless they had something more certain than this to take their place. When law is established this supplies the need and the guns are useless. This is the principle that should be applied to the nations of the world. They should be controlled by an international law which should be as supreme over nations as the laws of a country are over its individuals. This international law should be backed by an army and navy, if necessary, which should be the only ones on earth. Any other military force would be as much out of place as an individual or set of individuals taking up arms against their government or against each other. Any nation not wishing to be controlled and protected thus would be dealt with the same as an individual who does not respect the laws of his country. He must yield for the best good of the majority. I believe this is the way and the only way that nations ever will or can be expected to disarm. The individual would be a fool to lay down his gun in a country without the law to protect him. So a nation would be foolish to disarm without a supreme international law to protect it."

That Mr. Francis possesses considerable ability as a writer of poetry as well as prose is indicated in one of his poems which he styles Early Recollections :

"No carpet of tapestry, Brussels or ingrain,  
In palace of millionaire, lord or of king,  
Can ever compare with that velvety blue grass  
That grew 'neath my feet in life's beautiful spring.

The parlor and bedroom we had in our playhouse,  
In corner of that old Virginia fence,  
In front of the yard of our earliest homestead,  
Has never been equalled at any expense.

The old log stable with corn crib attachment,  
That sheltered the horses so noble and grand,  
That pulled the great loads with their smooth wooden collars,  
Or broke up the sod of that primitive land.

And then the great hogs that were out in the hogyard,  
They had a log shed with the roof made of hay,  
And even the mud-holes where they used to wallow  
Had wonderful charms on the long summer day.

The old stoned up well that was close to the doorstep,  
Where water was hoisted with windlass and chain;  
No fear was there then of the terrible microbe,  
That water was cold and as pure as the rain.

And there was the attic up under the rafters,  
Such a wonderful place to romp and to run;  
When the raindrops came down on the roof with a patter  
And added sweet music to noise and to fun.

Now with hair turning gray and with step growing slower,  
We are looking again for the picture so fair;  
Seeking the viewpoint of life's early morning;  
Father Time only answers with echo of—where?

Last even' while out for a short recreation,  
With fancies turned backward again o'er the ground,  
I wandered adown by the home of my childhood;  
But alas! what a change in the scene there I found.

A father, a mother, a brother, a sister;  
I look for in vain to meet at the door;  
A few decayed logs mark the site of the cabin,  
They are fast disappearing and the dream will be o'er.

And so Father Time beckons onward, still onward,  
Returning no moments to be lived anew;  
'Tis well for us then to have this recollection,  
They may come to the light when stern judgment is due.

And so to all friends and all brothers and sisters,  
Who still may unite on a reunion day;  
I would send kindest thoughts and congratulations;  
For soon from this earth we must all pass away."

While all this indicates much of the ability of Mr. Francis, there is perhaps **nothing** that so clearly indicates his position in life as the little poem clipped from one of the current magazines, entitled *The Gates of Gold*. Kindly and considerate, always mindful of the feelings of others, anything bordering on gossip is utterly distasteful to Mr. Francis, and the little poem given below indicates the guiding spirit of his life.

"If you are tempted to reveal  
A tale some one to you has told  
About another, make it pass,  
Before you speak, three Gates of Gold.

Three narrow gates—first, 'Is it true?'  
Then, 'Is it needful?' In your mind  
Give truthful answer. And the next  
Is last and narrowest, 'Is it kind?'

And if, to reach your lips at last,  
It passes through these gateways three,  
Then you may tell the tale, nor fear  
What the result of speech may be."

---

#### FRED BACH.

The success which has crowned the efforts of Fred Bach, making it possible for him to live retired, is an indication of what may be accomplished by a man of determined spirit and unflinching energy, for without special aid at the outset of his career, Mr. Bach has steadily worked his way upward. He was born in Furstentum, Waldeck, Germany, April 13, 1841, and is the only survivor of a family of three children, whose parents, Christian and Christina Bach, were also natives of Germany. The father was a stonebreaker and died in Germany in 1851, when in middle life. His wife afterward married William Yager, and in 1859 they crossed the Atlantic to America, settling in Edford township, Henry county, where they secured a farm of one hundred acres, upon which they continued to reside until called to their final rest. They had three children, Charlie, Caroline and Fred, but Charlie died at the age of fourteen years. Caroline be-

came the wife of Herman Stensel, and both have passed away. They had four sons and a daughter, Mrs. Mary Long, William, Fred, Albert and Henry.

Fred Bach came to America in 1859 when eighteen years of age with his mother and stepfather and the other children of the household. He had secured a good common-school education in Germany, was reared as a farm boy and lived at home until twenty-one years of age. In 1862 he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for about three years. He was seriously injured in the left hand in the battle of London, Kentucky, in 1863, and he participated in the engagements at Franklin, Nashville, Atlanta and Dalton, and many other hard fought battles of the war. He went with Sherman to Atlanta and then turned back to Nashville, the army going into winter quarters at Pulaski, Tennessee. He was mustered out at Newburn, North Carolina, at the close of the war, and his military record is one of which he has every reason to be proud, for he never faltered in the performance of any duty whether it led him to the firing line or stationed him on the lonely picket line.

After the war Mr. Bach returned to Henry county, Illinois, and took up farming in Osco township, where he purchased forty acres of land. Prompted in all of his business affairs by laudable ambition he steadily worked his way upward, and making further and judicious investments in property he became the owner of a valuable and productive farm of two hundred and eight acres, on which he lived until 1901. He then rented the place and removed to Geneseo, purchasing a nice home on Mechanic street. He still owns the farm, however, and it is well improved, so that it rents at a good figure and materially increases his income. That he possesses the indispensable factors of success is indicated in the results which have followed his labors, making him one of the men of affluence of the county.

On the 4th of July, 1867, Mr. Bach was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Zabel, who was born in Prussia, Germany, October 6, 1848, and is a daughter of Frederick and Julia (Detman) Zabel. Her parents were both natives of Germany, and her father died in that country near the village of Schwetz-Kreis-Marienwerder, when about sixty-seven years of age. His wife, surviving him for a number of years and coming to America, settled in Henry county, Illinois. She died in 1898 at the age of sixty-seven years. There were four children in the family—Bertha, Theressa, Paulina and Albert Zabel. Mrs. Bach came to this country when sixteen years of age, and her mother and brothers and sisters followed later. She has lived in Henry county for forty-five years and has therefore been a witness of its growth and progress. Her maternal grandparents were John and Caroline Detman, and the former died in Germany at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bach have been born seven children: Theodore, who married Bessie Hampton; Lizzie, the wife of Henry Small, of Geneseo, by whom she has one son, Arthur; Mary, who died at the age of twenty years; Minnie, who lives at home; Anna, the wife of John Wagler, by whom she has two children, Burtie and May; and Fred and Carrie, twins. Carrie died when six months old, but Fred is still living and resides on a farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Bach belong to the Evangelical church and are deeply interested in all that pertains to its growth and progress or promotes the moral development

of the community. Mr. Bach belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and thus maintains pleasant relations with the soldiers who wore the blue uniform while he was fighting for the defense of the Union on the battlefields of the south. Politically he has always been a republican, standing loyally by the party which was the support of the Federal government during the dark days of the Civil war and has always been the party of reform and progress. For many years he was a school director in Osco township, has also been tax collector and highway commissioner, and the duties of these positions have been discharged with promptness and fidelity. Loyalty to any trust reposed in him has always been one of his strong characteristics, and he is known as a public-spirited citizen, whose cooperation can always be counted upon to further any movement for the general good.

---

### SULLIVAN R. FRANCIS.

Sullivan R. Francis, who, combining farming and teaching, rounded out a useful life and had the satisfaction of knowing that his influence had always been directed toward the uplifting of his associates, was for many years numbered among the residents of Henry county. His birth occurred in Lunenburg, Massachusetts, in 1816, and he came of a family of English descent that was founded in the new world as early as 1630.

Thinking to enjoy better opportunities than were offered in New England by a removal to the west Mr. Francis came to Illinois about 1840 and soon thereafter located in Henry county, where he purchased eighty acres of land from the government. It was entirely wild and unimproved, not a furrow having been turned. On that tract he built a little log cabin and at once began farming, breaking the sod and tilling the fields so that in course of time the place returned to him bounteous harvests. Being a man of education his services were required during the winter months as teacher in the early schools and he did much toward shaping the educational progress of the county in pioneer times. His summers, however, were devoted to tilling his land and improving his home. In later years he became one of the school directors in his district.

In 1842 Sullivan R. Francis was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Elizabeth Hayward, who was born in Lunenburg, Massachusetts, and died May 30, 1845. His second wife bore the maiden name of Mary S. Gardner and was born in Bedford, Massachusetts, November 13, 1825, while her death occurred in Kewanee, October 22, 1889. For his third wife Mr. Francis chose Anna I. Pelton, a native of England, who survives him and is now residing in Neponset, Illinois. His family numbered eleven children, five of whom are yet living, namely: Frederick, a resident of Kewanee township, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume; L. S., who is operating a sawmill north of Neponset; Sullivan F., who is a resident of Kewanee and a dealer in fine horses; W. R. who is living in Adrian, Michigan; and Gladys Galbraith, of Oakland, California. There are also two grandchildren: F. V. Francis, who is proprietor of pattern shops at Atlanta, Georgia; and Clara G. Matheson, whose husband died in Kewanee, December 24, 1909.

The death of Mr. Francis occurred September 1, 1901. He was a sturdy farmer of remarkable force of character, an upright and worthy man, who was brought up to hard work and strict discipline on the farm. Probably to the fact that he always worked with all his might is due his wholesome life and the positions of responsibility he was given by the people. While some would have been restricted by the limitations of rural life and pioneer conditions his interests seemed to expand as he met those conditions and shaped them for his own betterment and the common good. His ambition prompted him to make the best possible use of his opportunities and his life furnishes an example of high purpose and upright manhood. While his religious views agreed with many of the most progressive Christians, he was an ardent spiritualist, and in his last illness expressed the desire that all should know that he lived and died happy in that belief. Whatever may be said of the truth of this doctrine, it was often remarked that if his life was a sample it would be good.

---

#### ABRAM B. SPICKLER.

This is an age of marked commercial activities and the man who wins prosperity must be alert, energetic and determined; must recognize and improve opportunities which others pass by heedlessly; and must take advantage of every legitimate chance offered by the trade for the development and expansion of his particular enterprise. Possessing all these requisites of success Abram B. Spickler is making substantial progress as one of the representative merchants of Kewanee, where as a member of the firm of Spickler & Warner he is engaged in business as a dealer in clothing and men's furnishings.

Abram B. Spickler was born in Columbia, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1850, and is a son of Henry and Barbara (Stackhouse) Spickler. His father owned and operated flour mills. The son pursued his education in the public schools and after putting aside his text-books learned the mason's trade, which he followed for four years. He was a youth of seventeen when in the year of 1867 he made his way westward to Illinois, settling in Kewanee. His financial resources were such as to render immediate employment a necessity, and he sought and obtained a situation in the general store of J. L. Platt. Subsequently he was employed with the firm of Shillon & Fezzler and afterward became a salesman in the employ of Lay & Lyman, with whom he continued for eleven years, his long retention in the service standing as incontrovertible proof of his fidelity and ability. Subsequently he went upon the road as a traveling salesman, handling agricultural implements for several years, and in 1887 he became identified as proprietor with the mercantile interests of Kewanee, at which time he entered the clothing and men's furnishing goods business as a partner of Henry C. Huntington, under the firm style of Huntington & Spickler. Later Morton K. Warner acquired an interest in the business and the firm name was changed to Huntington, Spickler & Warner. Since the death of Mr. Huntington the firm has been known as Spickler & Warner. It is regarded as one of the most reliable and progressive of Kewanee, its business constantly increasing. The secret of its success lies in the

reasonable prices, the fair dealing and the earnest effort on the part of the proprietors to please their patrons. They have a well appointed and attractive store and their trade has reached gratifying dimensions.

On the 21st of June, 1876, Mr. Spickler was united in marriage to Miss Addie Anderson, of Kewanee, a daughter of Robert Anderson, proprietor of a flour mill. They have become parents of three children: Blanche, who is now the wife of J. H. Frey, of Bloomington, Illinois, where he is engaged in the drug business; Maud, the wife of W. F. Ingals, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, who is general manager of sales for the Central Tube Company; and Marjorie, at home.

The associations of Mr. Spickler outside of business connections are indicative of the character of his interests and the principles which guide him in all his relations. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is also a loyal representative of the Masonic fraternity and the Elks lodge. He belongs likewise to the Business Men's Association and is in hearty sympathy with its purposes of developing and promoting the trade interests of the city. He stands for progress at all times and seeks his own success and the city's advancement by no devious methods, but along lines of activity which will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

---

#### WILLIAM GUEST.

William Guest, a retired carriage and wagon maker, has reached the seventieth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Devonshire, England, November 1, 1839. His father, Joseph Guest, also a native of England, was a lime burner and remained in his native country until his demise. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Pickins and also spent her entire life in England.

William Guest was reared in his father's home and acquired his education in the public schools of his native land but put aside his text-books in his youthful days and at the age of seventeen years was apprenticed to learn the trade of carriage and wagon making, at which he worked for one year. At the end of that time he went to Canada with the man to whom he had been apprenticed and there finished his trade. He made his home in Canada for six years, but, thinking that there were better business opportunities to be enjoyed in this country, in the spring of 1863 he crossed the border and made his way to Chicago, where he worked until the following August. He then came to Wethersfield, where he resumed work at his trade in the employ of James Wylie, with whom he was connected for four years. He then worked for H. H. Bryan & Son for some time, after which he engaged in business on his own account, manufacturing wagons and carriages and carrying on a general repair shop along the same lines. The years witnessed his growing success, and his capable management and indefatigable enterprise brought him a measure of prosperity that in 1904 enabled him to sell his business and retire from active life.

On the 17th of August, 1864, Mr. Guest was married to Miss Diantha Mathews, a daughter of Anson and Sarah Jane (Patterson) Mathews who were natives of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, coming to this county some time in

the '50s. Eight children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Guest, but two died in infancy. The others are: John P., formerly assistant treasurer of the Kewanee Boiler Company and now treasurer of the John Davis Company of Chicago; Margaret, who teaches in Kewanee; Alfred M., who is engaged in the jewelry business in Kewanee; William E., who is proprietor of the Model Laundry of Kewanee; Mabel, who assists her brother William E. in his office; and Ethel, the wife of Eslie Pettitt, a draftsman with the Hennepin Bridge Company of Minneapolis.

Mr. Guest at one time belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Kewanee and is in sympathy with the principles and purposes of the organization. In politics he is a democrat and has taken an active part in local political interests. His life has been one of industry, determination and perseverance, and these qualities have given him standing among the men of affluence in the community and have brought to him a substantial competence which now supplies him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

---

### FRANK S. SEARS.

The agricultural and stock interests of Henry county find a worthy representative in Frank S. Sears, who owns four hundred acres of fine land on section 22, Cornwall township, where he makes his home. He was born in the house he now occupies October 13, 1861, and is a son of John and Mary W. (Jewett) Sears. The parents were natives of Connecticut and in that state were reared and married, coming to Henry county, Illinois, shortly after their marriage, in 1856. In Cornwall township, the father and his brother Vincent bought three hundred and twenty acres of land. Later John Sears purchased the other's share and added thereto eighty acres, and upon this farm of four hundred acres spent his remaining years. He was the father of seven children. Mary Jewett is the wife of E. J. Porter, of Nebraska, and they have two children. Frank S. is the subject of this review. John, living in Cornwall township, married Miss Mary Whiffles and they have five children. Sarah A. is unmarried and resides in Geneseo. Nellie G. died in childhood. William H. wedded Miss Nona Fick and they live at Cascade, Montana. Jessie is the wife of George Fehlman, of Geneseo and is the mother of one child. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sears lived to see a great change wrought in the character of the country and the latter died in 1888, while the former survived her for ten years and like his wife was buried in Atkinson cemetery. He was a staunch republican, and although not an office seeker served efficiently as town clerk and school trustee.

The years of Frank S. Sears' youth passed as did those of the average boy reared upon a farm, the summer months being devoted to plowing, planting and harvesting, and the winter months to acquiring such an education as the district schools afforded. He also attended the high school in Geneseo for a short time. Meanwhile, however, he was gaining a practical knowledge of agricultural methods, was learning the crops best suited to his soil and the means of obtaining the largest results for his labor, so that when he engaged in business for himself he was able to win a substantial success from his undertakings. He inherited one hundred





MRS. JOHN SEARS



JOHN SEARS



and sixty acres from his father, to which he has added as he had opportunity until now he owns a tract of four hundred acres, while he operates eighty acres more. He has brought his land to a high state of cultivation, and, bending his energies toward raising the best quality of cereals possible, annually gathers and markets good crops. He has also devoted considerable time to raising, feeding and shipping stock, deriving from this enterprise also a gratifying income.

In Cornwall township, April 14, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Sears and Miss Amy A. Funk, who was born in that township, January 24, 1876, a daughter of George and Rebecca (Funk) Funk. She received a good education, having graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1894, and then taught for a couple of terms. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sears, namely: George, Attie, Charles, Mary, Susie and Frank, but the first died in infancy.

Mr. Sears gives his political support to the republican party, but he never seeks nor desires public office, although his interest in the welfare of his fellow citizens is evident in the able manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of township clerk and school director. His wife is a member of the Congregational church, whose services he attends and in whose support he is liberal. He has had no false standard of life, but aware that earnest and indefatigable labor constitute the basis for advancement in the world's work has been diligent in seeking and winning prosperity, and that he has lived honorably is manifest in the fact that he enjoys the respect and confidence of those who have known him from boyhood.

---

### JAMES R. BATTEN.

James R. Batten, numbered among the veterans of the Civil war, was born May 21, 1839, in Preble county, Ohio, a son of Eli and Heatha C. (Wilhoit) Batten. The father was born in Madison county, Virginia, in 1801, and the mother's birth occurred in the same place in 1808. Eli Batten was a farmer by occupation and in 1855 arrived in Annawan township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until about 1880. He then retired from active work and spent his last days on the farm. He died in the spring of 1890 and his wife passed away in 1893, the graves of both being made in Fairview cemetery. They were the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living: William A., who resides in Eureka, Greenwood county, Kansas; Louisa, who is the widow of Amos Conley and resides in Illinois; John, whose home is in Wichita, Kansas; James R.; Mary E., who is the wife of Andrew Carroll and resides in Clinton, Iowa; Sarah, the wife of Thomas Dennis, a resident of Denver, Colorado; Eli Gilbert, of Colorado; and Emmeline, the wife of Daniel Bolin, whose home is in Severy, Kansas.

James R. Batten began his education in the schools of Ohio and continued his studies in the district schools of Annawan. The periods of vacation were devoted to farm work, and he remained with his father upon the home farm until 1862, when he enlisted as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Resaca, Georgia, and was in the Atlanta campaign. In the battle of Atlanta, on

the 6th of August, 1864, he was wounded, being shot through the right forearm. He was in the field hospital for a brief time, after which he was sent to a hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, later to Nashville, then to Jeffersonville, afterward to a hospital in Mound City, Illinois, where he was honorably discharged May 12, 1865. His brother John was also a member of the same regiment, while another brother, William Batten, was a member of an Ohio regiment and was wounded while in the service.

After being mustered out James R. Batten returned to his father's farm but soon made arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 4th of July, 1865, to Miss Julia A. Blin, who was born in Ohio in 1845 and was a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Frye) Blin, both of whom were natives of the Buckeye state. The father occupied the farm on which he was born until his removal to Annawan township, Henry county, Illinois, in 1853. Both he and his wife are now deceased, their remains having been interred in Fairview cemetery. Both were representatives of old Pennsylvania German families. They had fourteen children, of whom four are living: Sarah, a resident of Annawan; Mrs. Batten; and Samuel and Daniel Blin, both of Kansas. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Batten began their domestic life on a farm east of Fairview church, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1902, when he removed to the village of Annawan. He was afflicted with a paralytic stroke in June, 1907. He had suffered more or less from the age of twelve years with a white swelling of the knee, and as a result of wounds in battle he suffered the loss of one eye, which had been hit with a piece of steel. He now engages in no business, living quietly at his home in Annawan, his rest being well deserved. The government for some time granted him a pension of seventeen dollars per month, which has been increased to thirty dollars as the result of a special dispensation being made by congress, the bill passing the house of representatives in 1907, while the increase has been paid to Mr. Batten since 1908.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Batten have been born eleven children, ten of whom are yet living: Heatha B. is the wife of John Templeton, of Cornwall township, by whom she has five children: Russell, Mabel, Florence, James and Fayette. John W. lives in Annawan township and has one child, Edna; Mary is the wife of Edward Greenhagen, of Kewanee, by whom she has six children: Bessie, the wife of Pearl Shultz, of Annawan; Fred, Ernest, Scott, Hazel, and Helen Greenhagen, all of Kewanee. Addie is the wife of O. P. George, of Tampico, Illinois, by whom she has one child, La Moine. Howard is living in Tampico, Illinois, and has two children: James O. and Julia. Emma is the wife of Edward Harvey, of Annawan township, by whom she has four children: George, Howard, Grace and Edward. Curtis is a carpenter of Moline and has one child, Edward. George is timekeeper in the tube works of Kewanee and has four children: Earl, Vern, Mildred and Glen. Nora is the wife of Morgan Machesney, of Annawan township, by whom she has four children: Lawrence, Bernice, Glen and Gladys. Milo is a mechanic living in Moline, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Batten now have twenty-eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In his political views Mr. Batten has been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, never faltering in his allegiance to the party. He served for twenty consecutive years as road commissioner and has

always been as loyal in his duties of citizenship in times of peace as he was when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church and are highly esteemed in the community where they have so long made their home. Since their marriage they have lived continually in Annawan township and has a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. Mr. Batten is an entirely self-made man, for he had no financial assistance when he started out in life for himself. Gradually he made progress in the business world, and the success which came to him was the merited reward of his earnest, persistent labor.

---

### WALTER SCOVILLE LAMBERT.

Walter Scoville Lambert, a son of Edward and Sarah Lambert, was born on a farm one and a half miles north of Geneseo, January 22, 1869. He was three years of age when his parents removed to Geneseo, where he now resides. When a youth of twelve years he left the high school to work in the department store of J. H. C. Petersen, of Geneseo, remaining with that house continuously for twelve years, after which he engaged in the retail business for himself. His success is indicated by the fact that he now conducts one of the largest and leading retail department stores in the city under the name of the Lambert Dry Goods Company.

Mr. Lambert is a member of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., and Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T. He is also a noble of Mohammed Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Oasis of Peoria, and likewise belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp of Geneseo. His family are all of the Methodist faith, holding membership in the Geneseo Methodist church.

Mr. Lambert is of English and French descent. His father, Edward Barton Lambert, a son of William and Avis (Barton) Lambert, was born in 1829 at East Farley, Kent county, England, twenty-six miles from London. When about eight years of age he came to America with his father, mother, sister Anna and his brothers Henry, John and Eph, his brothers William and George having previously come to the United States. They made their way to Rochester, New York, where the father died in 1843, his grave being made at Mount Hope. Edward Barton Lambert afterward removed to Rock Island, Illinois, where he engaged in the manufacture of shoe lasts, while afterward he conducted a brick manufacturing business at Geneseo, burning the brick which were used in the construction of many of the oldest brick buildings in this city. In 1854 he married Miss Sarah Scoville at Rock Island, Illinois, and to them were born seven children: Edward; Anna, deceased; Flora, also deceased; Frank; Grace; Walter; and Ruby, who has passed away.

Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth (Scoville) Lambert was born in Seymour, Connecticut, March 30, 1836, a daughter of Everette and Elizabeth (Durand) Scoville. The Durands were of French and English lineage, the English name being Hull. Two of the uncles of Mrs. Lambert were French priests. Elizabeth Hull Durand was a niece of General Hull and a cousin of Captain Hull. When she was seven years of age she made the trip across the wilds of the United States with a minister,

the Rev. Hitchcock, and his family, to Davenport, Iowa, passing through Chicago en route. In some way, due to lack of proper mail transportation, she lost trace of her parents and never saw any of her family again until forty years later, when through a similarity of names they were united at Mantua, Ohio. Her mother is still living, also her brothers: Bennett, residing at Naugatuck, Connecticut; Charles, living in California; and James, of Mantua, Ohio. The meeting was a most happy one after so many years of separation. The parents, brothers and one sister of Walter S. Lambert now reside at Vallejo, California.

Walter Lambert married Miss Grace Mabel Terpening on the 5th of February, 1890, and they have four children: Ceil Austin, born May 30, 1891; Zella Kathryn, May 12, 1895; Homer Kiner, February 25, 1899; and Dale, November 15, 1906.

Mrs. Grace Mabel Lambert was born September 1, 1868, in Munson township, nine miles south of Geneseo, a daughter of Josiah B. and Catherine C. (Kiner) Terpening. Her father was born in Virgil, Cortland county, New York, December 13, 1815, and died in Geneseo, Illinois, December 17, 1889. He was a son of Henry and Sarah (Byrom) Terpening, of Holland Dutch descent. Mrs. Lambert's mother, who in her maidenhood was Catherine Kiner, was born March 31, 1825, in Blaine, Perry county, Pennsylvania, and died January 1, 1904, in Geneseo. She was a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Kline) Kiner, the former a soldier of the war of 1812. The Kiner family is one of the oldest on the continent. The original head of the family, Absalom Keinaedt, as the name was then spelled, emigrated from Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1625. He settled in the Old Dominion, as Virginia was then called, on the banks of the James river. The family flourished in Virginia for centuries. About a decade ago, there was a grand family reunion at the grave of the original bearer of the name in Virginia. A magnificent monument was erected over the grave. The great shaft is a picturesque feature of the beautiful old-time burial ground on the James. In the course of time scions of the Keinaedt family imbibed the restless spirit which is an element of the true American citizen, and began to scatter out from the Old Dominion. There was quite a delegation which found its way into the wilds of Pennsylvania. The sturdy old Wurtemberg stock contributed greatly toward making the wilderness to "blossom like the rose." The great Keystone state became one of the mightiest commonwealths of the Union. The names of the Keinaedts began to be changed, and were variously spelled, becoming Koerner, Coiner, Keirner, Keiner, Kyner and finally Kiner. This is the accepted spelling at present. The Pennsylvania branches grew restless again and began to emigrate west, some settling in Ohio and a goodly number in Illinois. Thus was founded the branch of the family from which Mrs. Lambert is descended.

Mrs. Lambert's father and mother were married December 27, 1866. Her half brothers and sisters are: William F. Calhoun, who served on General Sheridan's staff during the Civil war and is now postmaster of Decatur and editor of the Decatur Herald, while his political service covers four terms as representative in the state legislature, during which time he was twice chairman of the house; the Rev. Scott Calhoun, who was for four years a soldier of the Civil war and is now living in Tuscola, Illinois; Mrs. Jennie Chamberlin, deceased; Rev. J. Dill Calhoun, of Winona, Illinois; Mrs. Ella N. Hill, of Des Moines, Iowa; Henry A.

Terpening, deceased; Mary E., who has passed away; Mrs. Emma Comstock, deceased; George Terpening, who has also departed this life; Sarah, the wife of Rev. Broom, of Geneseo; and William R. Terpening, of Abingdon, Illinois.

---

### GEORGE ARNETT.

Prominent among the successful farmers and old settlers of Henry county is George Arnett, who for over seventy-two years has been closely identified with the history of this region. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and his pronounced business ability and excellent management have brought to him a high degree of success, so that now he is one of the wealthiest citizens of Geneseo, where he is now living a retired life.

His birth occurred in Warren county, Pennsylvania, June 6, 1833, his parents being Louis and Clara (Schotte) Arnett, the former a native of France and the latter of Germany. On coming to Illinois, the father settled first in Chicago, which at that time was a mere village, and he was offered a house and lot near the present postoffice for six months' work but refused to accept the proposition. In 1837 he came to Henry county and secured two hundred and forty acres of government land in Loraine township. Upon the wild unbroken prairie he built a log house and then began the cultivation of his land. Later he added more land to this farm but finally sold the place and purchased a farm in Whiteside county. There his wife died in March, 1866, and about four years later he disposed of his farming interests and went to live with his son-in-law, David Heller. His lack of a knowledge of the English language at the time he came to America caused him to meet with many hindrances in business transactions but he finally became able to use the tongue of his adopted land and to converse very fluently. He was a member of the Evangelical church and gave his early political allegiance to the whig party, while later he supported the republican party. He died in January, 1868, honored and respected by all who knew him.

George Arnett was the eleventh in a family of twelve children, eight of whom were born in Germany, while the others were natives of Warren, Pennsylvania, where the parents located after their arrival in the new world. The children were: Louis, who died in Warren, Pennsylvania; Jacob, who died in Geneseo, Illinois, in 1899; Mary, who wedded Samuel Cogswell and both died in the Keystone state; Anthony, a resident of Colorado; Catherine, who married David Heller and lived for some years in Loraine township, this county, but was a resident of Geneseo at the time of her death, which occurred in 1900; Joseph, who died in Geneseo; John, who died in this county in 1898; Philip, who died in California in 1850; Susan, who married Simeon Heller, both of whom passed away in Henry county; William, who died in Loraine township in 1898; George, the subject of this review; and Samuel, also a resident of Geneseo.

The educational opportunities which George Arnett was accorded during his boyhood and youth were very meager but, possessing an observant eye and retentive memory, he has added much to his knowledge and has also learned many valuable lessons through experience and through reading. He remained on the

home farm until reaching manhood and on the 28th of March, 1853, started for California with the Hite family, to whom he was to pay fifty dollars for his traveling expenses and to drive a team half of the time. In an uncovered wagon he traveled across the plains and over the mountains and as there were no bridges the rivers had to be forded, and to keep the wagons from pushing against the horses in going down the mountains, trees had to be tied to them and trail behind, thus providing an obstacle to their rapid progress. En route the party with which Mr. Arnett traveled had several encounters with the Indians and their horses were stolen by the red men a number of times but were afterward recaptured. Stopping first in Oregon, he was there employed for a short time as a farm laborer but at the end of six weeks purchased provisions and with one horse started for California, traveling for five hundred miles through unbroken wilderness. On reaching Scott river he found employment with his brother at seventy-five dollars per month and for six months had charge of the pack train in the mountains. At the end of that time he purchased the train and outfit from his brother and engaged in the same business on his own account with good success. During his sojourn in the west he had many thrilling and interesting experiences which, if written in detail, would rival many of the stories of fiction.

After about four years spent in California, Mr. Arnett returned east by water, arriving in Henry county just before Christmas day in 1856. He then took charge of the farm and later made his first purchase of land from his father, becoming owner of one hundred and sixty acres in Loraine township. During the period of the Civil war he had the misfortune to have his house destroyed by fire. In the summer of 1864 when so many men were at the front it was impossible to find men willing to work on the farm and his wife drove the horses of the reaper while he and his hired man bound the grain cut on one hundred and seventy-five acres. Wheat advanced in price to three dollars per bushel and he was thus enabled to get a good start in life. From time to time he made further investment in property until he became the owner of thirteen hundred acres in Henry county and twenty-four hundred acres in Minnesota, thus becoming one of the most extensive land-owners of this part of the state. In connection with general farming he raised and handled live stock, making a specialty of fine Durham cattle.

Mr. Arnett was married November 15, 1857, to Miss Margaret Sieben, a daughter of Joseph and Appolonia (Gabel) Sieben. Mrs. Arnett was born in the village of Abenheim, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, near the city of Worms, and was ten years of age when she came with her parents to America in 1852. They took passage on a Rhine steamboat at Mainz on the 8th of August, 1852, went to Rotterdam and then proceeded to London. As passengers on a sailing vessel they came from the world's metropolis to the United States, reaching New York after a voyage of forty-eight days. The family made their way direct to Chicago and because of the illness of the mother were obliged to remain in that city. The death of Mrs. Sieben occurred in the following January and in February, 1853, Mr. Sieben with six of his seven children, went to Whiteside county and settled on the Rock river bottom near Crandall's Ferry. At that time the father went in debt to the extent of one hundred and seventy-five dollars. He rented a farm and took possession of a vacant cabin, which he made comfortable by chinking it with mud. He then obtained work, for which he received fifty cents per day, while two of his

sons worked for thirty and twenty-five cents per day, respectively, and had to board themselves. In 1856 the log house was burned and the entire contents were destroyed. It was in that year that the father married a second time and he remained a resident of Whiteside county until his death in 1858.

His daughter, Mrs. Arnett, has been a resident of Henry county since 1857 or for a period of fifty-two years. She has been to her husband a faithful helpmeet and companion on life's journey, standing loyally by him in all of the struggles of his early business career and through her wifely sympathy and wise counsels has helped him to achieve success. She is a lady of refinement and an estimable woman and receives the love of her children and the esteem and confidence of her many friends. By her marriage she became the mother of six children: Harriet M., the eldest, became the wife of William Hudnall and died, leaving a daughter Inez, who married Otis Godfrey, a large sheep man of Montana. Julia is the wife of Lamont Rowe of Washington, Iowa, and they have three children, Wilma, Margaret and Catherine. Franklin G., living in Culbertson, Montana, married Elma Brockman and has one daughter, Rowena. Minnie Alberta is the wife of Perry Kempster, of Prophetstown, Illinois, and they have three sons, Cecil, Arnett and Oliver. Perry Adelbert, residing ten miles from Laverne, Minnesota, married Catharine Lynch and has two children, Margaret and George L. Floyd Henry, the youngest of the family, is at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnett are devoted members of the Methodist church. Mr. Arnett is a stalwart republican in his political views and has taken an active interest in local politics. He served for twenty years as school director in Phenix township, where he also filled the office of supervisor for eight years. His history is one which is most commendable as it is the record of a man who has wisely placed his dependence upon his own energy and ability. In all of his business affairs he has been thoroughly reliable, and his industry has carried him into important relations with the agricultural and financial interests of the county. He has lived in the county for seventy-two years and his wife for fifty-two years and they are among its most highly esteemed citizens. There is perhaps no resident of this part of the state who can speak in more comprehensive and reliable manner concerning events which marked the early pioneer development, characterized the later growth and have fostered the present progress and upbuilding of the county. He can remember when the greater part of the land was still uncultivated but has lived to see it transformed into rich farms, in the midst of which are beautiful homes. Towns and villages have also sprung up and the work of development and improvement has been carried steadily forward. Mr. Arnett rejoices in all that has been done on the side of advancement.

---

#### JUDGE ALBERT ERIC BERGLAND.

Albert Eric Bergland, judge of the county court of Henry county, has been a practitioner at the Illinois bar since 1894 and in November, 1906, was called to the bench, where his capable service shows him to be a man of comprehensive knowledge of legal principles with a mind at once analytical, logical and inductive. A

resident of Galva, he was born upon a farm near that city November 9, 1869, his parents being Jonas and Helen Bergland, both natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather, Andrew Bergland, was likewise a native of that country and lived at Helsingland. He came to the new world when his son Jonas was but three years of age, the family being among the first settlers of Weller township, Henry county, Illinois, where they owned a small farm, living in a dug-out until a more commodious, comfortable and modern home could be secured. They were among the band of Swedish people who were active in colonizing this part of the state. Andrew Bergland continued a resident of Henry county until called to his final rest at an advanced age, and his wife, Mrs. Britta Bergland, also reached old age. They left several of their children in Sweden but brought three of them to the new world, namely: Jonas, Eric and Christine. The daughter is now the widow of Olaf Olson of Bishop Hill, Illinois. Eric Bergland served through the Civil war, when a very young man, and was afterward sent to West Point. He then remained with the military service of the country until a few years ago, when he was retired with the rank of major. The Petersons, maternal grandparents of Judge Bergland, were also pioneers at Bishop Hill, and they and two of their children died during a cholera epidemic.

Jonas Bergland was only about three years old when brought to the new world by his parents, who settled at Bishop Hill in Weller township, where he was reared to manhood, his experiences including the usual routine of farm life. He died when a comparatively young man of thirty-six years and is still survived by his widow who now lives in Galva. At the time of his death he was acting as school director in his district, and he was an advocate of general progress and improvement. His children were four in number: Edwin, who is living on the old homestead near Galva in Weller township; Albert E.; Victor A., a physician of Rock Island, Illinois; and Fred E., who is also on the home farm.

Judge Bergland was reared in the usual manner of farm lads, spending his youthful days in Weller township, where he attended the district schools, while later he became a student in the Galva high school. He then entered Knox College at Galesburg, Illinois, and was graduated with the class of 1891. After teaching school for a short time he began preparation for the bar as a student in the law school of the University of Maryland, from which he was graduated in 1894. He was then admitted to the bar of that state and, upon his return to Galva in the same year, successfully passed the examination required for admission to the Illinois bar. Opening an office in Galva, he practiced continuously and successfully there until November, 1906, when he was elected county judge, taking his seat upon the bench in the following December.

On the 14th of March, 1898, Judge Bergland was married to Miss Pearl J. Hendricks, a daughter of Dr. William S. and Martha P. (Johnson) Hendricks. Mrs. Bergland was born in Tennessee, McDonough county, Illinois, while her father was a native of Kentucky and her mother of this state. Her grandfather, Henry A. Hendricks, was likewise born in Kentucky and represented one of the old colonial families. The ancestry is traced back to Nathan Hendricks, who was killed in the engagement which brought about Braddock's defeat. He was a Virginian by birth and the father of John Hendricks who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, belonging to the Tennessee Rangers. His son, John Hendricks,

Jr., was a soldier of the war of 1812 and was the father of Henry A. Hendricks, the grandfather of Mrs Bergland. He made farming his life work and as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life chose Melvina Jones. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Bergland was John T. Johnson, a native of Ohio, who, in 1826, came to Illinois and settled in Hancock county. He, too, chose farming as a life vocation. He married Maria Wright, and both lived to old age, rearing a large family of ten children. The father of Mrs. Bergland is now a resident of Chicago, but her mother died in 1901, at the age of forty-five years. They were both members of the Baptist church. Their family numbered a daughter and two sons: Mrs. Bergland; Dr. Homer C. Hendricks, a resident of Williamsfield, Illinois; and Hugh A. Hendricks, living in Chicago.

The marriage of Judge and Mrs. Bergland has been blessed with one daughter, Martha Helen. The parents are prominent socially, and their own attractive home in Galva is the abode of warm-hearted hospitality. Judge Bergland owns this property together with a half section of land in Manitoba, Canada. His wife is connected with the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the judge belongs to Galva Lodge, A. F. & A. M., the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Kewanee. Politically he is a democrat, interested in the success of the party and was an active worker in its ranks until called to the bench. He served for several terms as city attorney but has never held office outside the strict path of his profession. His election as county judge came as a logical sequence of the ability which he had displayed as a member of the bar. Devotedly attached to his profession, systematic and methodical in habit, sober and discreet in judgment, calm in temper, diligent in research, conscientious in the discharge of every duty, courteous and kind in demeanor and inflexibly just on all occasions, these qualities have enabled Judge Bergland to take first rank among those who have occupied the bench of the county court and made him the capable conservator of that justice wherein is the safeguard of individual liberty. His reported opinions show a thorough mastery of the questions involved, a rare simplicity of style and an admirable terseness and clearness in the statement of the principles upon which the opinions rest.

---

#### THOMAS P. PIERCE.

The financial record of Kewanee would be incomplete and unsatisfactory were there failure to make prominent reference to Thomas P. Pierce, who since its organization in 1880 has been the president of the Union National Bank. Moreover, he is active in republican politics, exerting a wide felt influence in the local ranks of the party.

A native son of Illinois, Mr. Pierce was born in Kane county, October 3, 1838, his parents being Thomas and Ruth (Powell) Pierce. The father was a native of Wales and in his youthful days came to America, settling first in the state of New York, where he made his home from 1817 until 1835. He was there engaged in contracting and building, having learned the carpenter and joiner's trade upon coming to America. In 1835 he came to Illinois by way of the great lakes and

established his home near Aurora, in Kane county, where he purchased and improved land, devoting his attention to general agricultural pursuits for about two decades or until 1854, when he removed to Aurora, where he lived retired throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1872. His wife passed away twenty years later, dying in 1892.

In the period of his boyhood Thomas P. Pierce was a pupil in the district school of Sugar Grove township, Kane county, and subsequently continued his education in the high school of Aurora. In the spring of 1859 Mr. Pierce came to Aurora, where his eldest brother, William W., was engaged in the hardware business. He made his initial step in a humble capacity, devoting his time to learning the tinner's trade, but this qualified him for the conduct of business on his own account and in the fall of 1863 he opened a tinshop in Kewanee and later embarked in the hardware business. He prospered in his undertaking and three years later he admitted his brother John H. Pierce to a partnership in the business under the firm name of Pierce & Brother. Later O. J. Brown became interested in the business under the firm style of Pierce & Brown, but this association did not continue long on account of Mr. Brown's health. Mr. Pierce was then alone until he disposed of the business about 1883. He was known for a number of years as one of the leading merchants of Kewanee, having a well appointed establishment and winning a large trade by reason of his fair prices and his honorable, straightforward dealing. In December, 1880, he became connected with the banking business. The Union National Bank secured its charter at that time and Mr. Pierce has been one of the directors and the president since its organization. He has given his energies to the successful solution of banking problems and has been an important factor in making this one of the strongest financial enterprises of this part of the state. He was also further connected with the business interests of the city as a member of the board of directors of the Kewanee Boiler Company at one time and was one of its original stockholders.

In September, 1864, Mr. Pierce was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte L. Talcott, formerly of Michigan. Her father, Joseph Augustus Talcott, was a native of Wethersfield, Illinois, but subsequently gave his attention to the insurance business. He passed away in 1891, while his wife survived until 1895. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pierce were born two children: a daughter who died in infancy; and William T., who is now in the Union National Bank of this city. The parents are members of the Congregational church and are prominent in the social circles of Kewanee. In Masonry Mr. Pierce has attained the rank of Knight Templar and is ever loyal to the teachings and purposes of the craft which is based upon the principles of mutual kindness and the brotherhood of man. Politically he is an ardent republican and was a member of the state board of equalization from 1884 to 1900, having refused the renomination in 1900. He has served on all important committees. He has also been honored with other official preferment, having for several terms been president of the village board while for a number of years he was a member of the county board of supervisors and was a presidential elector in the fall of 1900 at the time of McKinley's election. His entire life has been passed in Illinois and has now covered more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten. It has been characterized by orderly progression, by the masterful solution of business problems and by unflinching enterprise in the labors

that have come to him as his share of the world's work. He is a man of unflinching integrity and commercial honor and enjoys in the highest measure the respect of all who know him.

---

### WILLIAM CLARK.

One of the valuable pieces of land in Munson township is that lying in section 13, owned by William Clark. He was born in February, 1834, in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and is the son of William and Deborah (French) Clark. When he was about six months old his parents moved to the village of Cedarville, Washington county, Ohio, where his father followed his trade as a shoemaker. About seventeen years later the family came west to Illinois, and after living for a time in Burns and Atkinson townships, removed to Munson township, where the father had bought eighty acres. On this he passed the remainder of his days. Nine children were born to the senior William Clark and his wife. They were Jacob, who died at the age of three; Joseph, who went to California about 1852 and of whom nothing has been heard for forty years; Ellen, who is the widow of James Adams and lives in Idaho with her two children; William of this Sketch; Ruth, the wife of William Richardson, of Nebraska, and the mother of a son; Deborah, the wife of James Sporleder, who died in Kansas, leaving five children; John, of Henry county; Lydia, who married Charles Mooney, of Kansas, and is the mother of seven children; and John, of Atkinson Township.

At Cedarville, Washington county, Ohio, William Clark received a fair common-school education. He came west with the family, and assisted his father in his work in every way that lay in his power. Until he became of age the results of his toil went to the family support. On attaining his majority, however, he began to work for himself. Upon the death of his father, Mr. Clark bought from the other heirs their interest in the home farm and has since conducted the work on it. It is now a valuable tract worth very much more than the price originally paid for it, which seems but little more than nothing beside the amount it would bring were it placed upon the market today.

On the 2d of September, 1871, Mr. Clark was married to Miss Martha Shakespeare, who was then living in Munson township. She was born in England and was about seven when her parents, William and Sarah (March) Shakespeare, came to the United States. It was before the day of the fast ocean liners, and six weeks were consumed in crossing the sea that separates the two continents. The father was a coal miner and on coming to Illinois located in Kewanee where he bought ten acres and followed his line of work. He lived to enjoy this new life but two years, however, but his wife survives him to the present and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Clark.

Mr. and Mrs. William Clark have become the parents of six children. Sarah, married Samuel Wigan and they have five children. Nora married Custer Bismark, of Munson, and they have four children. William married Miss Clara Lane and they have two children: Grace and Harold. Martha married Fred

Wigant and they have five children. Alice married Jacob V. Clark and they have one child. Cora, the youngest, lives at home.

Mr. Clark cast his first ballot for John C. Fremont in 1856, and has since supported the candidate of the republican party, which was the defense of the Union in the days of the great struggle and which, Mr. Clark believes, stands for the best form of government. He is not an office-seeker, however, and takes but comparatively slight interest in public matters.

---

### MORRIS A. BOLTENSTERN.

In none of her citizens can Lynn township be accounted more signally fortunate than in Morris A. Boltenstern. The son of William and Mary (Anderson) Boltenstern, he was born November 16, 1860, in the very township in which he now resides. His father, a native of Germany, and his mother of Sweden, severed their association with Europe about the year 1852 and, coming directly to Illinois, were led by the very evident resources of Lynn township, Henry county, to settle here. Fortune smiled upon their undertakings, the father eventually becoming a large landowner and cultivator. Five sons came to bless their home, as follows: Theodore, now postmaster at Cambridge; Morris A., the subject of the sketch; Edward, deceased; Henry E., who is married and in business in Galesburg; and Victor F., who is married and resides in Cambridge. The father was a trained agriculturist, having held the position of supervisor of farms when in Germany, and being educated along that line, was especially well fitted to make the most of the resources of a newer country. He was a man of large natural endowment, entitled to take a prominent place in public affairs. The republican party possessed his allegiance, and he was a devoted churchman, Presbyterian in belief and a deacon in his church. He died July 29, 1892, and was buried in the Andover cemetery. His widow is still living.

The surest "open sesame" to success or prominence seems to be to have spent one's younger days upon a farm and such was the lot of Morris A. Boltenstern. He received a thorough education, supplementing his early training in the district schools of Lynn township and the public schools of Andover by a course in Geneseo Academy. Five years of his young manhood he spent in farming in Andover township, and then came back with his family to the old homestead in Lynn township (section 24, township 15, range 1). This splendid farm is six hundred and twenty acres in extent, and Mr. Boltenstern has additional interests which give him the management of no less than one thousand acres of land. It would be difficult to find anywhere a more progressive and scientific agriculturist, his success extending to every branch of the pursuit. Stock raising and cattle feeding is one line in which he is extensively engaged.

The marriage of Mr. Boltenstern to Miss Amelia J. McKillop was celebrated January 20, 1887. Her parents were Malcomb and Catherine (Cook) McKillop, both natives of Scotland, who as young people emigrated to Canada and were there married. They came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1855 and the father became a well-to-do farmer. They were upright citizens and devout Christians,

the father holding the office of deacon in the Scotch Presbyterian church. In their family were eight children, as follows: Mary, now Mrs. L. H. Mumau, of Nebraska; Donald, at home; Archibald, deceased; Malcomb, at home; Catherine, at home; Marjorie, now Mrs. M. L. Eaton, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Flora, now Mrs. S. G. Empey, of Oklahoma, and Amelia J., now Mrs. Morris A. Boltensstern. The father died in April, 1884, and his widow followed him in August, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Boltensstern's union has been blessed by four children—Alberta, Florence, Dorothy and Clifford, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Boltensstern's convictions are with the republican principles, and he is active in party affairs and in the fostering of better conditions. He has been a member of the county central committee and a delegate to the county, district and state conventions. He has filled the office of school director and for fourteen years represented Lynn township on the county board of supervisors, being relieved of this responsibility only because he declined to serve longer. His abilities have naturally recommended him for the chairmanship of various important committees, and he has been a director of the Henry County Agricultural Association for a number of years, as well as a director of the First National Bank of Cambridge. He and his family are Presbyterian in their church association. "Forward" is Mr. Boltensstern's watchword in regard to any matter which effects the public welfare. He believes particularly in the importance of good schools and is willing to do all in his power to secure them. He has an intimate knowledge of educational affairs, having been president of the board of education for many years, and to those of his fellow citizens who by chance may be less progressive in their ideas he is setting an example by giving his own children the advantages of higher education. He is potently assisted in his high endeavor by his wife, who is a woman of marked refinement and good breeding, devoted to her family and home. The household rejoices in an atmosphere of culture and altruism.

---

### JOHN JOHNSON, JR.

John Johnson, Jr., one of the most prosperous of Osco township's agriculturists, who is intimately connected with its farming and stock-raising interests, was born in Sweden, March 24, 1850. His parents were John and Johanna (Hanson) Johnson, both of Swedish nativity, who came to this country in 1856. They were seven weeks in crossing the ocean, a journey which can be made in that number of days now, and before they were finally established in Swedonia, Mercer county, Illinois, where they located first, thirteen weeks had elapsed since they had set forth from their old home. Two children endured the hardships of that journey with them—August and John, of this review. Mr. Johnson had left his native land with some means, but they had dwindled on the way so that when he arrived in Illinois he had to start at the beginning to win a competence for himself and family. He bought first one hundred and sixty acres, but on account of failure of crops he was compelled to sell the greater part of this until he had only fifty acres left. About nine years after his arrival in this state, he moved to Andover township, this county, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres, and as his

agricultural ventures prospered he was able to add to this tract from time to time until he had large landholdings in several townships of Henry county. In 1885 he built the first brick store erected in Osco and engaged in mercantile business, keeping up an active trade in grain and especially in broom corn at the same time. Later, having won a pronounced success and a large income, he retired from active life, taking up his residence in Cambridge, where he passed away in 1902. In his family were five children, namely: August, who died unmarried; John, the subject of this review; Edd, who is now living in Cambridge; P. A., also a resident of Cambridge; and Carl B., who was the only child by his second marriage.

John Johnson, Jr., was about six years of age when his parents came to the United States and about fifteen when his father came to Henry county. He attended the common schools of his locality, and at home he acquired a practical knowledge of farming. At the age of twenty-five he left the paternal roof, for he had married and was naturally desirous to establish a home of his own and started in life for himself, receiving from his father a team of horses, a wagon, two cows and two pigs. The latter also rented him a tract of land, on which he lived for about ten years. At the end of that period in 1891 he purchased the farm he now occupies, paying sixty-seven dollars an acre for it. It is a fine tract, embracing two hundred and eighteen acres on section 33, Osco township, from which Mr. Johnson gained such rich returns for his labor that he has been able to add extensively to his landholdings. He owns one hundred and sixty acres in Merrick county, Nebraska, and after that purchase bought one hundred and sixteen acres in Clover township, this county, at the rate of sixty-five dollars per acre, obtaining one hundred and four dollars for it when he sold it in 1907. Next he procured the Tyson farm, of two hundred acres, on sections 16 and 17, Osco township, for twenty-five thousand dollars and in 1909 contracted for the Manguson place of two hundred and forty acres, on sections 18 and 20, the same township, for thirty-seven thousand dollars. From his father he had inherited one hundred and sixty acres and is the administrator of the three hundred and twenty acres which his father bequeathed to his son Carl B. Other investments which he has made include two houses in Cambridge and stock in the Farmers Bank and State Bank of that village and in the bank at Osco. In 1872 he assisted in the organization of the Swedish Insurance Company, of which he was for a number of years an appraiser. In short he is a man who through foresight, united with a great industry exercised in the most effective manner, has been able to derive from his agricultural pursuits and his extensive stock business a position in the community in which he lives that might be enviable were it not so inspiring as a record of what may be accomplished if one but make the best use of the opportunities at hand. His father had received but a very limited education, and he himself obtained one which would be accounted very meager were it placed alongside of such a one as boys acquire as a matter of fact today, yet both father and son won a fortune that came not from books but from the employment of those qualities which belong to men of strong character and determined purpose.

On the 21st of August, 1872, Mr. Johnson wedded Miss Matilda Hanson, also a native of Sweden, who came to this country in 1869. To their union four children have been born: Anna, who married Enoch Swanson and is now the mother

of two daughters—Clarice Ethel and Mildred Leona; J. Albert, who is at home with his father; Amanda Otelia and Nellie, who are also at home.

Mr. Johnson is a republican in his political views but is not an office seeker, although he has served as school director for a number of years. He and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Andover as was his father during his lifetime. Indeed, in 1867, when the church was rebuilt, the latter took an active part in the work, contributing generously to the fund raised for the purpose. Mr. Johnson, Jr., has also been lavish in supporting the congregation and for some time has served on the board of trustees.

---

### WILLIAM R. REHERD.

William R. Reherd is well known in Geneseo, his native city, where he has an office while reading law and is also a notary public. His birth occurred December 13, 1869, his parents being Jacob K. and Lucy L. (Ware) Reherd, the former a native of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, while the latter was born in Geneseo county, New York. The paternal grandfather, William Reherd, was a Pennsylvania German and died in Virginia at a very advanced age. The maternal grandfather was Joel Ware, a native of New Hampshire, who married Lucy Crossett. He followed farming as a life work and both he and his wife died when more than eighty years of age.

Jacob K. Reherd devoted his life to general farming. He came to Geneseo just prior to the outbreak of the Civil war and after the close of hostilities he was married here and engaged in farming in Geneseo township. His original tract of land comprised one hundred and sixty acres but he subsequently increased its boundaries to include two hundred and forty acres. In his business affairs he was capable and enterprising and his success was the merited reward of his labor. He died in Geneseo in 1903 at the age of sixty-nine years and is still survived by his widow. Both were charter members of the First Presbyterian church of Geneseo, which was organized in 1868, and Mr. Reherd served as one of its elders. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and his personal popularity was indicated in the fact that he served for twelve or fifteen years as assistant supervisor in a republican county. He was also a member of the library board and a member of the first board of directors of the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. His cooperation in public affairs was of much benefit to the public at large, for his services were actuated by unflinching devotion to the best interests of the community. Unto him and his wife were born five children: William R., Herbert W., Harry A., Mary Louisa and Fannie F.

William R. Reherd has spent his entire life in Henry county, his youthful days being passed upon his father's farm, where he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He mastered the preliminary branches of study in the district schools and afterward attended the Collegiate Institute, subsequent to which time he engaged in teaching for five or six years. He was then engaged in the newspaper business for several years as owner and publisher of the Henry County Arena and, after purchasing the Geneseo News, con-

solidated the two papers, which he conducted until 1904. He then sold out, and turned his attention to the study of law, to which he devoted three years. In December, 1907, he purchased the law library and office fixtures of his brother Harry, who had died in October, 1907, and since that time Mr. Reherd has been preparing himself for the bar.

In June, 1903, Mr. Reherd was married to Miss Belle Fleming, who was born in Cornwall township, Henry county, and is a daughter of John and Mary (Johnson) Fleming. Both Mr. and Mrs. Reherd are members of the Presbyterian church, their lives being in consistent harmony with its principles. Politically Mr. Reherd is a democrat. That many of his stanchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is an indication that his has been an honorable, upright life and one worthy of the esteem in which he is uniformly held.

---

#### DAVID T. DICKEY.

On the roll of Henry county's honored dead is inscribed the name of David T. Dickey, who was for a long period closely identified with the agricultural interests of Cornwall township. He was born in Grayson county, Kentucky, December 19, 1835, his parents being Samuel A. and Elizabeth A. (Cooper) Dickey. The former was a native of Oxford, Pennsylvania, his birth having there occurred August 18, 1802, and when a young man he went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he met and wedded Miss Elizabeth Cooper, the marriage ceremony having been performed August 16, 1832. She was also of Pennsylvanian nativity, having been born in Washington county, that state, September 22, 1801, and had gone to Kentucky with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Dickey lived in the latter state until 1851, when Mr. Dickey, Sr., removed his family to Fulton county, Illinois, where he secured some farm land. In 1855 he came to Henry county, locating in Cornwall township, where he followed farming with good success and, as he saw opportunity, invested in real estate, until at one time he owned several hundred acres here. He lived in Cornwall township for more than a score of years and then removed to Kewanee, where his death occurred June 12, 1892, when he lacked but a few months of reaching the ninetieth milestone of life. On his father's side he was descended from a line of Presbyterian ministers and to that faith always gave unflinching allegiance. His wife also lived to a ripe old age, although she died several years before him, her demise having occurred July 16, 1887.

David T. Dickey was reared in the county of his birth, upon a farm which was in the vicinity of the Mammoth cave, and his preparation for life was derived almost entirely in the hard school of experience, for he had none of the educational advantages enjoyed by youths today. He accompanied his parents when they came to Illinois and assisted in cultivating the home farm in this county. Later, in 1861, he married and purchased from his father eighty acres on section 35, Cornwall township, to which he added subsequently the eighty acres adjoining. Then, as his financial resources increased, he bought the one hundred and sixty acres on which his widow now lives, a well improved farm on section 27,



DAVID T. BROWN



of this township, and continued to add to his landholdings from time to time until he owned five hundred acres. He spent two years in Iowa, where he had secured some property, and three years in Nebraska, but the remainder of his life was passed in Cornwall township. His life was one of continuous activity, he had enjoyed few advantages when a boy, but through indomitable energy, tenacity of purpose and loyalty to high ideals of manhood he attained a conspicuous success which placed him among the substantial men of Henry county. He was always closely identified with its interests and at all times ready to lend his aid to any movement to benefit this section of the country or contribute to its wonderful development.

On the 4th of April, 1861, Mr. Dickey wedded Miss Eliza Peterson, who was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, September 18, 1836, a daughter of Amos and Lydia (Ridle) Peterson. She was nine years of age when her father died and eleven when her widowed mother brought her seven children to Illinois and settled upon a small piece of land given to her by her father, who was then living in Fulton county. Mrs. Peterson was a woman of great courage and ability, for not only did she manage the little farm profitably, but she reared her family, the oldest of whom was only twelve when she came to this state, and gave them all a good education. Five of the children became teachers, and one son, Clinton, enlisted in the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served about three years and although he participated in many important battles was never wounded nor taken captive. After her children were grown Mrs. Peterson married Almer Hoig and lived in Monmouth, Illinois, until her husband's death, after which she made her home with Mrs. Dickey during the rest of her life. She was about ninety-five years of age when called to her final rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickey had three children. Alice Addie died in infancy and a sketch of Arthur J. appears elsewhere in this work. Grace Lillian was born September 4, 1866. She received a good education, being a graduate of the Northwestern Normal School of Geneseo of the class of 1886, and taught for one year in the school near her home. On the 2d of October, 1888, she gave her hand in marriage to Edgar Loren Macomber, who had come to Henry county in 1886. He was born in southern Ohio, May 29, 1865, a son of Jonas P. and Sarah (McMillen) Macomber. The former was born in Gallion county, Ohio, January 13, 1840, and the latter, also a native of Ohio, was born January 17, 1834. Jonas P. Macomber enlisted in the Sixtieth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, becoming a member of Company K, on the 10th of August, 1862. He was in a number of important battles during the war, including the engagements at Winchester, the battle of Shenandoah valley, Antietam and Bolivar. In the last named he was taken a prisoner and held for nine weeks. He was then exchanged and immediately rejoined his regiment, serving thereafter to the close of the war. He was honorably discharged at Alexandria, Virginia, December 18, 1865. He was married September 24, 1859, to Miss Sarah C. McMillen, a native of Ohio. They had five children, of whom two were living, Samuel, a resident of Columbus, Ohio; and Laurin of Atkinson, Illinois; Myra, Louisa and Jonas have all passed away. The mother, who was commonly and affectionately called Aunt Sarah throughout the neighborhood, was a life-long Christian, uniting with the church when seventeen years of age. She held membership in the Free Baptist church at the

time of her death, which occurred May 11, 1901. The father, Jonas Macomber, still resides at Benton, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Macomber have one daughter, Lillian Dickey, who was born April 17, 1893. She received a diploma for eighth-grade work and is now a sophomore in the Geneseo high school.

Mr. Dickey was a staunch republican in his political views, and while never remiss in any of the duties of citizenship was not an aspirant for public office. At the time the Free Will Baptist church of Cornwall became the Liberty Union Congregational church he and his wife became members of it, and he was loyal to its teachings to the time of his death, October 14, 1903. His was an earnest and consistent Christian life, characterized by stern integrity and honesty of purpose, and he left to his family the priceless heritage of a good name, for his record was not sullied by any unworthy or questionable act.

---

### SMITH HADSALL.

That the life history of Smith Hadsall is a record of success is due to the persistent effort and intelligently directed industry which he has displayed through the many years of his connection with the business interests of Burns township. One of Henry county's native sons, he was born in Burns township on the 12th of September, 1860, a son of James S. and Melinda Hadsall, extended mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume. No event of special importance came to vary the routine of life for him during the period of his boyhood and youth, which were spent on his father's farm in this township, and the district schools near his home afforded him his early educational privileges, while amid the busy activities of rural life he learned lessons concerning the value of industry, energy, integrity and perseverance. In January, 1878, he went to Kewanee, where he secured employment in the shops of the Haxtun Heater Company, with whom he remained for five years. At the expiration of that period he returned to his father's farm and assisted him in the cultivation of his fields for about four years, and then, in the fall of 1886, desiring that his efforts should more directly benefit himself, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres located on the northwest quarter of section 27, to the further development of which he has since directed his energies. By reason of his careful management he has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, while as he has prospered he has made many improvements upon the place. He has erected all new buildings, including a comfortable and attractive residence and substantial and commodious barns and outbuildings, has thoroughly tiled the land, has installed a telephone and all other modern conveniences which go to make up a model farm, and today his ranks among the most valuable and desirable properties in the district. He also owns another tract of five acres located on section 24, all fine timber land. In addition to general farming he gives considerable attention to the raising and feeding of stock, making a specialty of Chester White hogs, while he also raises some shorthorn cattle and



MRS. DAVID T. DICKEY



a number of high grade horses each year. His stock interests, which have reached most creditable proportions, are an important branch of his business affairs and form a most gratifying source of remuneration.

The raising of grain and the raising of stock, however, have not absorbed Mr. Hadsall's entire attention, for he has found time to direct his energies along other channels, making his a very busy and active life. Each year since 1882 he has operated a thresher, corn sheller and baler, having a complete outfit in these lines, and by reason of his long connection with this line of activity and the excellent character of his labor, he now holds the greater part of this business in his locality. His first five years in this connection were spent in Iowa. He was also engaged in the carpentry business for about seven years. Public-spirited in his citizenship, he is interested in all matters which have for their object the progress and upbuilding of the community, and has cooperated in many measures for the general improvement. He is a director and also local lineman for the Henry County Telephone Company, and is also a director in the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. The latter organization commenced business on the 9th of July, 1875, and is made up entirely of and controlled by leading farmers of six townships in Henry county, namely, Kewanee, Galva, Burns, Cornwall, Wethersfield and Annawan. In the conduct of his various business affairs he has manifested sound judgment, close application and unfaltering industry, qualities which have proved salient elements in the gratifying measure of success which he today enjoys, while perseverance, diligence and integrity have constituted the guiding posts of his life, bringing him to the honorable position which he now occupies among the successful, substantial and valued citizens of Henry county.

It was on the 2d of May, 1883, in Kewanee, that Mr. Hadsall was united in marriage to Miss Julia A. Zeigler, a daughter of Gottlieb and Marie (Hoffman) Zeigler, both natives of Hamburg, Germany, who came to Illinois, locating in Kewanee, early in the '50s. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hadsall have been born four children, namely: S. D., who is engaged in business for himself in Galesburg; Cleora Melinda, the wife of William Kramer, operating the old Hadsall homestead; Clara T., fourteen years of age, who is attending high school in Kewanee; and Ruby Genevieve, a little maid of six years who is attending common school.

Although the affairs of an exceedingly busy and active life make heavy demands upon his time and attention, Mr. Hadsall nevertheless takes time to keep up his interest in things municipal, and is a public-spirited citizen, always taking an active part in all local affairs. In his political views he is a stalwart republican, and while he has no desire for preferment along political lines, yet his fellow citizens, recognizing his ability and worth, have called him to fill various public offices, the duties of which he has performed in an efficient and highly satisfactory manner. For three years he served as township assessor, was assistant postmaster of Hawley, Burns township, for a period of four years, and for three years served as school director, the cause of education finding in him a staunch champion. He is also popular in fraternal circles, holding membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Kewanee, which organization he joined when twenty-one years of age, and is likewise identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, also of that city. He is a representative of that class of citizens whose lives are conspicuous for ability, diligence and determination, and success has come to him as

the legitimate and logical result of intelligence and well directed labor. He has lived his life to good purpose, recognizing and utilizing each opportunity as it has come to him, while the methods which he has ever pursued have been such as inspired the trust, confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

---

### SOLOMON E. EDGERTON.

In the twilight of their lives Solomon E. Edgerton and his wife find nothing in looking back over their married relation of sixty years to regret, for, while there have been privations and sorrows, the joys have far outbalanced them and they set an example of marital confidence and love equaled by very few in the country. Solomon E. Edgerton, now living retired at Woodhull, was born November 6, 1818, in Essex county, New York, a son of Jacob and Mary (Stoddard) Edgerton. The family is descended from Lord Edgerton, royal keeper of the seals. The founder of the family in this country first settled in Connecticut but later removed to Vermont, from which state Jacob Edgerton removed with his family to Essex county, New York.

Jacob Edgerton served as captain in the war of 1812 and gained considerable distinction by his bravery. In 1836 a colony of Essex county people started for Knox county, Illinois, but on the road Jacob Edgerton and his family found that they had relatives in Granger county, Ohio, and stopped to see them. For four years they all remained there with the exception of Solomon E. Edgerton, who after three years proceeded to Galesburg, Illinois, where he had relatives, reaching that place in the spring of 1836. At this time Galesburg was only a small, scattering village, which had been established by the Essex county colony, and among them Mr. Edgerton found former acquaintances. His father having been a carpenter, Solomon E. Edgerton had learned to be "handy with the tools" and he found employment in building houses for the newly arriving inhabitants. For fourteen years he made Galesburg his home and there, April 6, 1842, he married Martha Belding, a daughter of Stephen J. and Martha (Stephens) Belding. The Beldings were from Vermont, the father being a native of Connecticut who had removed to Vermont, where the mother was born. Mrs. Edgerton's grandmother, Abigail (Greene) Stephens, was a sister of General Greene of Revolutionary fame.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Edgerton lived in Galesburg until 1855, when they removed to Henry county, settling on some new land four miles north of what is now Woodhull, where Mr. Edgerton began farming. He erected his own house and other necessary buildings. As an illustration of the values existing when he first came to Henry county the following incident is entertaining. Needing some corn for his horses, he went to the home of Peter Frantz, then sheriff of Knox county, who told him to go into the field and husk a dollar's worth, what he had asked for. Going back with what he thought was a fair equivalent for his money, Mr. Edgerton was ordered back to the field to fill his wagon. As this had a capacity of twenty-five bushels, he paid four cents a

bushel for the corn. As a result of his first year's farming in Clover township, he had eighty hogs which he killed, dressed and sold at Geneseo for one dollar and a quarter per hundredweight. He continued living on his farm for twenty-eight years but December 30, 1879, moved his family to Woodhull, and since then he has lived retired although superintending his farming property.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgerton have had three daughters: Mary, who married Sidney Durton, of Mercer township; Ethel A., who is the widow of Tyrus Hurd; and Ida, who is the deceased wife of Manning Spooner, an attorney of Wooster, Ohio. Mrs. Hurd is a physician of Minneapolis and has a daughter Anna, who is also engaged in the practice of medicine. A grand-daughter, Miss Frances Spooner, has been admitted to the bar and is now living with her grandparents.

Mr. Edgerton is a republican but was formerly a whig, casting his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840. He has always been active and interested in public matters and while living in Clover township served as a member of the board of education for years. The first school in his district was held in a room of his house before the schoolhouse was built. He worked on some of the most substantial buildings in Galesburg, erecting the first building of Knox College, which was burned soon after it was finished. Although he had only two dollars when he first reached Galesburg, he found work at once and soon was in comfortable circumstances. On April 6, 1909, Mr. and Mrs. Edgerton celebrated the sixty-seventh anniversary of their marriage and as this was an event of importance to the family and one that seldom occurs in the lives of any married couple, a large number of relatives and friends gathered to offer congratulations and to do honor to the noble old couple who have been central figures in Henry county for nearly the same length of time the Psalmist gives as the allotted life of a man. They have always been liberal to their neighbors, devoted to their children and proud of what they have accomplished. In sickness or in trouble these two have always been ready with sympathy and material help, and the people of Henry county never neglect an opportunity of showing them distinguished honor. Hand in hand they have braved the storms of life and are now enjoying the serenity that closes useful and well spent careers.

---

### JULIUS N. WESTERLUND.

Julius N. Westerlund, an active and energetic agriculturist of Osco township, was born in the house where he now resides on the 17th of February, 1872, his parents being Erick and Christine (Anderson) Westerlund. He was reared on the home farm and obtained his early education in the country schools, while subsequently he pursued his studies at Cambridge and later spent four years in Augustana College, completing the commercial course with the class of 1892. He was then engaged in the hardware business at Cambridge for about a year and a half, on the expiration of which period he sold out and returned to the home farm. His time and energies have since been devoted to the cultivation of a farm of two hundred acres on section 28, belonging to his father, and under his careful supervision the land has become very productive and valuable, the well tilled fields annually

yielding abundant harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. He owns a quarter section of land in South Dakota and also has a one-fifth interest in three thousand six hundred acres in western Nebraska.

On the 28th of February, 1895, in Cambridge, Mr. Westerlund was united in marriage to Miss Etta A. Samuelson, a native of Osco township and a daughter of August and Tilda (Anderson) Samuelson. Unto them have been born six children, namely: Grace Almeda; Franklin Dewey, who died at the age of nine years; Wallace N.; Evangeline, Irene and Gilbert.

Politically Mr. Westerlund is a stanch republican, casting his first presidential ballot for William McKinley. He served as town clerk in 1893 and in 1907 was elected supervisor, which office he still holds, having been reelected in 1909. He was formerly a member of the purchasing committee and is now on the fuel committee. Since 1892 he has been a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 2248, at Osco, in which he served as clerk for four years and as venerable consul for two years. He also attended the state camp at Decatur. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Andover and he is now acting as a teacher in the Sunday school. They have always made their home in this county and are widely and favorably known within its borders, having ever displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken regard and esteem.

---

### VIRGIL McHENRY.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Virgil McHenry are descended from families who played no inconspicuous part in the early life of this county, and representatives of the family were valiant soldiers in the great conflict between the north and south. In times of peace their influence has been great for the development of the resources of this section of the state, and wherever known the family has been accorded great respect.

Virgil McHenry was born in Phenix township, February 23, 1863, and is a son of Thomas J. and Amanda (Anderson) McHenry. The father settled in that township in 1837 and there engaged in farming until he retired to the city of Geneseo. His life has been one of great activity and he has had many experiences, for he responded to the second call for troops during the Civil war. He saw three or four years of service and in the battle of Vicksburg was wounded. His wife was a daughter of William and Ann (Stadden) Anderson, both natives of Licking county, Ohio, where the birth of the former occurred in the year 1807 and that of the latter in the year following. In 1835 Mr. Anderson came to Illinois, settling in La Salle county, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1846. He was a farmer all his life and a stanch member of the Methodist church. His wife survived him more than half a century and when, in 1898, she too was taken from this world she was buried by him in the Dayton cemetery situated on the banks of Fox river in La Salle county. They were the parents of six children: Samantha, the widow of C. P. Browning, of Phenix township, and the mother of Orville, Lorette; Edward; Charles; Elizabeth, who is the wife of

William Joles and lives in Colorado Springs; and Carrie. Elizabeth is the wife of George Anderson and lives in Montana; Amanda is the wife of T. J. McHenry and is the mother of the subject of this sketch; Jane married J. F. Gibson and lives in Denton, Texas; W. S. is a resident of Abilene, Kansas; Lucy is the wife of James Lawrence, of Iroquois county, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McHenry had six children, four of whom are living; Luella, who is the wife of Benjamin O'Bright, of Geneseo; Virgil, of this review; Ada, who married Robert Rose, of Geneseo; and Francis, who lives in Phenix township.

Virgil McHenry received his education in the district schools of Phenix township and after his training was completed remained with his parents until he became of age, when he embarked in life for himself. For a number of years he rented land, on a small scale at first, later increasing his responsibilities as he felt able. In 1905 he purchased the land in Phenix township on which he now makes his home. It comprises two hundred and eighty acres, two hundred and forty of which lie on section 34 and the other forty on section 35. His fields are well suited to diversified farming, and he has also found them valuable as a feeding ground for stock. The farm is improved to a high degree as the result of his labors, for he erected the house and barns which are substantial structures and constructed in accordance with modern ideas.

Mr. McHenry was united in marriage in 1892 to Miss Nora Darin, who was born in Phenix township, November 13, 1863, and was a daughter of John Jackson and Eleanor (Clark) Darin, a sketch of whose lives appears in another part of this volume. Three children have been born to them: Bessie Helen, who is attending the Geneseo high school; Tella Ada, who has just finished the course in the district school; and Albert Burdette, who is still a pupil in the local schools.

Mr. McHenry is entirely self-made, for from his early manhood he was compelled to rely upon his own efforts. He has still some of the best years of his life before him, but even now he has attained to a position in which he may enjoy many of the comforts of life. This progress has been made possible through the habits of industry and economy, in which his wife has aided him greatly.

Mindful that one of his uncles on his father's side, William McHenry, was shot down in the ranks of the Union army during a severe battle, and that another uncle, on his mother's side, Stadden Anderson, was also in the Civil war, he has given his support in political matters to the republican party but not being a seeker for office has served the community only as a member of the school board.

---

### WILLIAM O. ALLISON.

Oxford township takes justifiable pride in William O. Allison, who stands in the forefront among her estimable, substantial and representative citizens. He was born January 28, 1855, in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. His parents were Andrew and Susanna (Dible) Allison, the father being of Scotch ancestry and the mother of German, but both born in America. The father, who enlisted in the One Hundred and Eleventh Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, saw some of the hardest service of the Civil war. He was with Grant at Appo-

mattox and witnessed the surrender of Lee at the close of the conflict. In his three years' service he escaped, either wound or prison, although participating in a number of hard fought battles and was present at the grand review in Washington, D. C., at the close of the war. He was a farmer by vocation and his success therein reflected his intelligence. He died in August, 1907, but the mother of our subject is still living on the old homestead in Pennsylvania.

William O. Allison spent the first twenty-one years of his life amid the interesting surroundings of his father's estate in Pennsylvania and received his education in the district schools of Westmoreland county. In 1876, however, he decided to visit new scenes and came to Alpha in Oxford township, Henry county, Illinois, where he found employment with various farmers in the locality. Two years later he married and removed to the property of his wife's father, an unusually valuable farm of two hundred acres adjoining the village of Alpha, where he has ever since resided. He is a very extensive landholder for he has one hundred and sixty acres additional on the Knox county border, and six hundred and forty acres in the province of Saskatchewan, Canada. The soil of the latter is particularly fitted for the raising of wheat and in fact, for every crop raised in Illinois with the exception of corn. It would be difficult to find anywhere a more enlightened agriculturist or one more alert to acquaint himself with every successful new experiment in his line. His prosperity is by no means an accident but the natural result of the application of good sense and brain power to the matter in hand. Mr. Allison was also one of the promoters of the Woods Broom Company, which for some years did a large and prosperous business in the manufacture of brooms. He was president of the foregoing and has been active in the promotion of other industries and ever a valuable adjunct to the progress and development of the community. He is now retired from all active business affairs except the supervision of his real-estate interests.

The marriage of Mr. Allison and Miss Phylinda J. Patterson was celebrated December 17, 1878. Her parents were O. H. and Margaret (Taze) Patterson of Oxford township. The former came from New York state in the early days, and upon locating in Illinois, was first engaged in the manufacture of carpenter tools, but later turned his attention to farming. He was extremely fortunate in coming when he did for he bought land for one dollar and a quarter an acre that is now worth two hundred and twenty-five. The Taze family, of which the mother was a member, were originally of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, but came west in pioneer days. Both of these estimable people have now passed on to their reward, the mother dying in 1893 and the father two years later. They had but one child—Mrs. Allison. Five sons have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Allison. Ira D. is married and resides on the home farm; Harry O. is a professor in the State University at Urbana, Illinois; Fred G. is a biological chemist, also in the State University, both of these hold state appointments; Raymond A. is a graduate of the high school at Alpha and now a student in Knox College. The youngest, Merritt W., is in attendance at the Alpha high school. The three eldest sons all received their early education in the Alpha schools, and after a course at Knox College at Galesburg, entered the State University and graduated together in the class of 1906. Ira D. married Miss Edna Hoff, of Chicago Heights, a daughter of Thomas Hoff. Also a graduate of the State University, she held a place in

its faculty for two years as instructor in German and taught for a time in the schools of Chicago Heights. Their marriage was celebrated in June, 1906, and it is in the plan of these young people to live upon the home farm and devote their attention to scientific farming.

Mr. Allison gives unflinching loyalty to the republican party and, although never an office seeker, is a man thoroughly posted on current events, whose opinion in public affairs is revered by his associates. That he is a firm believer in the best education possible is manifest from the training of his sons. It is consequently a matter for general congratulation that for years Mr. Allison has been willing to give his time and service as the president of the Alpha school board, which office he at present fills. He has been instrumental in securing for Alpha one of the best and most thoroughly equipped school buildings in the country. The Allison family hold membership in the Baptist church, in which the head of the house has for twenty years or more held the office of deacon, while he acted as superintendent of the Sunday school for fifteen years. The Baptist church, one of the finest edifices in the county, was built while Mr. Allison held the office of trustee, and it is to be seen that his Christianity is by no means of the passive sort. He is supremely fortunate in the possession of a life companion whose aims are akin to his own. Mrs. Allison is a woman of cultivation, devoted to home and family, but finding time for outside duty. She also has been for many years a valued Sunday-school worker.

In short Mr. Allison is a splendid exponent of progress, as for instance in his own employment of crop rotation and fertilization which has made his land as productive today as it was thirty years ago. His sons share in this spirit. The second, Harry O., is recognized as an expert judge of stock, his opinion being greatly sought. He was one of the three experts selected from the state of Illinois to judge stock at the St. Louis Exposition, and also at the International Stock Show in Chicago. The Allison farm is not only one of the best in the country as far as soil and productiveness are concerned, but it is also one of the most highly improved to be found in any locality whatsoever. It is well drained and well fenced, and the residence, barns and other farm buildings are all modern in arrangement and completeness, the handsome residence possessing all the modern conveniences. This is in truth a model farm with a place for everything and everything in its place, an ornament and object of pride in Oxford township.

---

#### PAUL LAWRENCE JOHNSON.

Paul Lawrence Johnson is one of the prominent men of Bishop Hill whose business methods in the conduct of a hardware store of which he is proprietor commend him to the confidence and support of the general public. Energetic and enterprising, he seeks success along well defined lines of trade and commerce. A native son of Bishop Hill, he was born June 22, 1861. His father, John B. Johnson, long known as the giant of the colony, was born in Obgermanland, Sweden, in 1814, and came to this country with a band of Jansenists who established the

Bishop Hill colony. While the colony existed in its original form he engaged in wagon making, but when village organization was adopted he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, continuing in the work of the fields until his death, which occurred in 1891, when he was seventy-seven years of age. His size and physical strength when he was in his prime won him large renown, for he was six feet four inches in height and it is chronicled that at one time he lifted a dead weight of thirteen hundred and sixty-five pounds. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Brita Johnson, was born in Bolnas, Helsingland, Sweden, in 1827. She crossed the Atlantic at the same time as did Mr. Johnson, becoming a member of the Bishop Hill colony, and died in this village in 1903 at the age of seventy-six years.

Paul L. Johnson was educated in the Bishop Hill schools and through private instruction in the higher branches, especially in mathematics. He worked upon the home farm until 1882, when he married and at the same time started in business life for himself. Taking up the occupation to which he had been reared, he at first rented a tract of land but later purchased a farm. For eight years he carried on general agricultural pursuits and in that time cultivated three hundred and twenty acres. In 1890, however, he sold his farm property and removed to Bishop Hill where he opened a blacksmith and general repair shop, for the success which he had previously enjoyed in conducting a repair shop while engaged in farming led him to the belief that he might win a still larger measure of prosperity if his entire attention were given to the work. A short time after his removal to the village he extended the scope of his business by adding a small line of tinware and gradually increased his stock to include hardware, stoves and kindred lines until today he has one of the best equipped stores of the kind in the county, carrying an extensive stock of farm implements, heavy hardware, tinware, clocks and silverware. Acting upon his motto "What you don't see, ask for," he has usually been able to supply the wants of his customers and the business, established upon a small scale, has gradually developed in the past two decades until his sales are estimated at fifteen thousand dollars a year.

In addition to his store and business property Mr. Johnson also owns other real estate including two dwellings in the village. His own home, in the midst of spacious grounds on the south side of the village, is frequently pointed out to visitors as being one of the handsomest in this part of the township. Mr. Johnson, displaying marked skill in cabinet-making, has designed and constructed many of the admirable and attractive pieces of furniture and the interior decorations which adorn his home. The dining room in particular is worthy of note, being entirely finished in black walnut which was taken from the pews and gallery of the old Colony church. The house is equipped with all modern conveniences, even to a private gas plant which Mr. Johnson installed, and its location is a most attractive one.

Mr. Johnson is also well known because of the merit he has displayed along literary and musical lines. For a number of years he was the Bishop Hill correspondent for the Galva Standard, and his contributions to that paper, which are well remembered for their fearless, plain-spoken style, greatly increased its subscription list in his section of the county. Ever a lover of music, he plays several instruments, principally for his own amusement. For some years, however,

he was organist of the Colony church and has been musical director of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church, leading its choir on special occasions.

Mr. Johnson has been married twice. In 1882, at Bishop Hill, he wedded Miss Amanda Johnson, a daughter of Martin Johnson, who in his day was one of the leading residents here. Mrs. Johnson died in 1887, at the age of twenty-four years, leaving three sons, Roswell M., Clarence R. and Leroy F., who are now twenty-six, twenty-four and twenty-two years of age, respectively. In 1890 Mr. Johnson married Miss Emma A. Olson, a daughter of Olaf Olson, now deceased, who was a farmer of Henry county and one of the veterans of the Civil war. He was born in Alfsta, Sweden, July 13, 1843, and died at his home south of Bishop Hill, April 19, 1904. He came to America with his parents in 1849, the journey from the old country taking four months. Mrs. Mary Olson, the mother of Mrs. Johnson, was born December 27, 1846, and was the first white child born at Bishop Hill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Olson were long members of the Bishop Hill colony. Mrs. Johnson was born May 19, 1868, and acquired her education in the common schools and in the Galva high school. She afterward engaged in teaching for several years prior to her marriage, being employed as primary teacher in the Bishop Hill school for three years.

Politically Mr. Johnson is allied with the democratic party, being strongly opposed to the tariff. In 1888 he made a strong race for the position of county clerk. Henry county is normally republican by a majority of three thousand, but on the occasion of his candidacy he was defeated by a majority of only four hundred and fifty votes, his large support being an indication of the high regard in which he is held, even by those who differ from him in their political sympathies. He has held all of the village offices, including that of president of the board, and is now one of the trustees, having continuously served on the board, with the exception of two years, since becoming a resident of the town. He is also school treasurer of Weller township at the present time. In all the relations of life, business, political or social, he has maintained such a high standard of honor and integrity that he has won the respect, good will and confidence of those who, through daily intercourse with him, have come to know him well.

---

### HON. CHARLES C. WILSON.

Hon. Charles C. Wilson has for fifty years been a member of the bar and at one time was chief justice of Utah. He became identified with the Kewanee bar in 1860 and has been continuously a resident of the city since that time. He is the dean of the legal profession in Henry county, and still engages actively in the practice of law, his clear judgment enabling him to give sage advice to younger members of the profession. Mr. Wilson is a native of Massachusetts, born on the 18th of September, 1827. His parents were Enoch and Abigail (Richardson) Wilson, the former a native of Wrentham, Massachusetts, and the latter of Portland, Maine. Judge Wilson was reared to manhood in the state of his nativity and in its schools acquired his early education. He came to Illinois in 1850 and purchased land in Stark county, after which he took up the occupation of farming, devoting

his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1854, when he abandoned the plow and began preparation for the bar. He continued the study of law until 1859 and was then admitted to practice, after which he located in Bureau county, Illinois. In a few months, however, he removed to Kewanee, then a small village, and has since regarded it as his home, although for a brief period he was in the west. In 1864 he was elected district attorney for the fifth judicial district and served for four years. He was then appointed chief justice of the supreme court of Utah and sat upon the bench there until the latter part of 1870, when he resigned and returned to Kewanee. Judge Wilson has great respect for the dignity of judicial place and power and no man ever presided in a court with more regard for his environments. As a result of that personal characteristic the proceedings were always orderly upon the part of every one—audience, bar, and the officers from the highest to the lowest. His opinions are fine specimens of judicial thought, always clear, logical, and as brief as the character of the case will permit. He never enlarged beyond the necessity of the legal thought in order to indulge in the drapery of literature. His mind during the entire period of his course at the bar and on the bench has been directed in the line of his profession and his duty.

In 1850, just prior to his removal to Illinois, Judge Wilson was married to Miss Maria N. Benham, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Judge Benham, of Chittenden county, that state. The marriage was celebrated in Massachusetts and was blessed with seven children: Jennie M., Abbie, Laura M., Charles E., Cora, George and Edward.

On the organization of the republican party Judge Wilson became a stanch champion of the cause and has since been loyal thereto. He has always been interested in municipal affairs, giving his aid and cooperation to every movement for the general good and for one term he served as mayor of Kewanee. He was one of the organizers and the first to give financial backing to what has since become the Kewanee Boiler Company and branch of the National Tube Company in Kewanee. He was also one of the organizers of the Boss Manufacturing Company in this city. Throughout the long period of his residence in this city he has ever enjoyed in the fullest degree the respect and confidence of his fellowmen and his worth as a man and citizen are widely acknowledged.

---

### JAMES P. McLAUGHLIN.

The home farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 6, Annawan township, makes constant demands upon the time of James P. McLaughlin, and the neat, attractive appearance of the place is patent evidence of the skillful and thorough methods of farming pursued by him. He was born south of where he now lives, on the same section, June 20, 1872, a son of Patrick and Bridget (Hayes) McLaughlin. The former was a native of Ireland and was about nineteen years of age when he came to this country. For a few years he worked in New York and there was married to Miss Bridget Hayes, who had come from Ireland as a young woman, in company with her brother Cornelius Hayes. The latter is now a resident of Rock Island, Illinois, but formerly made his home in Geneseo. In

1866, just after the Civil war, Patrick McLaughlin and his wife came to Illinois. He was a poor man at the time but was able to make the first payment upon eighty acres of land in Annawan township, and from his first wheat harvest obtained enough to complete the purchase. Later he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres on section 6, the same township, and subsequently bought five hundred and twenty acres in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa. He was a man of great industry, enterprise and perseverance, and was endowed with rare good judgment, which played an important part in his success. He was also an exemplary citizen, and when, on the 27th of January, 1907, his life was brought to a close, he was deeply mourned by a large circle of friends. His wife had preceded him to the grave by several years, for she died January 21, 1903. They were the parents of six children. John, who is now about fifty years of age, was engaged in railroad-ing in Rock Island for a time but is now a resident of Chicago. He wedded Miss Agnes McLaughlin, who is not related to him, although having the same name, and they have eight children. Alice died at the age of twenty-five. Mary became the wife of Frank Goodell and they live upon her father's land in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, where they are rearing their four children. William lives near Ivanhoe, Minnesota. He married first Miss Anna Stowers, by whom he had one child, and there are three children by a second marriage. James P., is the subject of this sketch. Lawrence died at the age of fifteen. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McLaughlin were devout members of the Catholic church.

In the district schools of Henry county, James P. McLaughlin received a fair education, which was supplemented by practical training on the farm, for he was reared at home and there lived until he was about eighteen years of age. He then undertook to provide for his own support, working for others and traveling until 1892, when he secured employment as brakeman on a railroad. In 1894 he married and worked on a farm in Annawan township until 1896 when he removed to Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, where he again worked by the month. Later he went to Cameron, Iowa, where for a year and a half he found employment in an elevator, and then engaged in draying in Rockwell, Iowa. In 1899 he returned to Henry county, Illinois, and after working for his father for a time, located in Kewanee, where he was employed as a switchman on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for the next year. The next twelve months he spent in the employ of the Fuhe Company, after which he removed to Geneseo, living there until the spring of 1908, when he located on the farm where he now resides. It is a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which was willed to him by his father, is well improved and maintained under a high state of cultivation, so that excellent results are obtained from tilling the soil. Mr. McLaughlin has been energetic, industrious and persevering, and in consequence has obtained a gratifying success, not only from growing cereals but also from raising stock, a phase of his business activities to which he is giving more and more time.

On the 15th of May, 1894, in Atkinson, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. McLaughlin and Miss Alberta Heath, of the village of Annawan. She was born there May 22, 1872, and is a daughter of James Darsie Heath. The former is a retired painter and decorator of Annawan and was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, June 8, 1844, his parents being Edward and Margaret (Snively) Heath.

Edward Heath was probably a native of the same county, but he died when his son was about five years of age. His wife was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, received a good education in English and German and later taught school, being so engaged when she became acquainted with Mr. Heath. To them were born two children, but the other, Christopher, died in childhood. James Darsie Heath continued to live with his mother in Pennsylvania until he was fifteen, when, his mother having married Samuel Galley, he came to Illinois with her and his stepfather, locating in Stark county, which was Mr. Galley's home. There he lived until July 24, 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The company was sent to camp at Cottage Grove, Chicago, and as the regiment was recruited largely from the Board of Trade of that city, it was commonly called the First Board of Trade throughout the service. From camp it was sent to Cairo, Illinois, thence to Paducah, Kentucky, which it reached September 6, 1862. There Mr. Heath was taken ill and was confined to the hospital there and also in Columbus, Kentucky, whither the regiment had been sent. When he was recovering he was transferred to the convalescent camp at La Grange, Tennessee, which he left December 11, 1862, to join his company at Holly Springs, for he believed he was ready for duty, although in reality he was not. After his return to the scene of activity he was in Grant's command and did guard duty for a provision train, participated in some skirmishes, guarded train into Memphis and part of the way back and then watched the railway a few miles east of Memphis. He was in the battles of Raymond, Mississippi, Champion's Hill, Big Black, took part in the expedition along the Yazoo Pass and was in the siege of Vicksburg. He then went to Natchez, Mississippi, and back to Vicksburg, where he remained until October 29, 1864, when he was sent to Nashville, Tennessee. The regiment at one time was ordered to join Sherman on his march to the sea, but the troops were unable to connect with him because they met Hood at Columbia, Tennessee, and then went to Nashville, which they left on the second day of the fight in order to follow Hood to the Tennessee river. Then they took ship to Eastport, Mississippi, thence went to Mobile, Alabama, participated in the siege of Spanish Fort, in the battle of Fort Blakeley, and were sent to Montgomery, Alabama, and later to Union Springs. In August they returned to Vicksburg and later went to Chicago, where Mr. Heath received his honorable discharge with the rank of corporal. When he left the army he took up his residence in Stark county, Illinois, where he began to serve an apprenticeship as a painter and decorator. A year and a half later he was able to take contracts, and in 1870 he came to Henry county, locating in the village of Annawan, where he has since resided and where he is well known, for he was police magistrate for about twenty-two years and in 1880 took the census of the township. He is also a notary public.

On the 10th of May, 1870, Mr. Heath wedded Miss Maria Louise Sturm, who was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and was about sixteen years of age when she came to Illinois with her parents, Isaac Sturm and his wife. She had received a good education and was a devoted wife and mother, whose loss was deeply mourned by her family and friends, when, on the 23d of June, 1903, she was called to her final rest. She is buried in Annawan. Six children were born to her and her husband, namely: Alberta, who married Mr. McLaughlin; one who died in infancy; Nellie, who makes her home with Mrs. McLaughlin; Edward, who

died unmarried at the age of twenty-two; Jennie, who is the wife of Grant Kendrick, a well-to-do blacksmith of Annawan; and John, who died at the age of fourteen.

Mr. Heath is a republican in his political views and cast his first ballot for Grant in 1868. He is a charter member of T. T. Dow Post, No. 290, G. A. R., at Annawan, of which he has served as adjutant commander, and has attended the national reunions at Galesburg, St. Louis, Denver, Chicago and Salt Lake. As he was a brave and patriotic soldier, so he has been an exemplary citizen, and when advancing years and a competence suggested the wisdom of retiring from active work, the good will of a large circle of friends and acquaintances accompanied him for he has lived in Annawan for two score years and the record of his life has been one which commands unqualified respect.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin there are seven children living and two have passed away. Blanch Irene was born in the village of Annawan, November 21, 1894, and is now a student in the public school there. Edward Earl was born in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, January 22, 1896. James Darsie was born in the village of Rockwell, Cerro Gordo county, August 15, 1898. Alice Ruth was born in Annawan, June 7, 1900. An infant died at birth and Ada Marie died at the age of six weeks. Nina Louise was born in Kewanee, November 1, 1904. Agatha Lucile was also born in that town, October 3, 1906. Alberta May, the youngest, was born on the home farm, May 13, 1908.

Mr. McLaughlin was reared in the faith of the Catholic church but his wife is a Congregationalist, and both in their lives exemplify the real meaning of Christianity. They are highly respected, for the circle of their friends is almost co-extensive with that of their acquaintances.

---

### WILLIAM W. STICKNEY.

William W. Stickney, now living on the fine old Stickney homestead of three hundred and twenty acres in Clover township, was born March 15, 1871, on his present farm, being a son of William C. and Ida (Clarke) Stickney, a full sketch of whom is given elsewhere in this history. He received an excellent education in the district and Woodhull schools and the Western Commercial College of Galesburg. He has kept up with current events by reading and in his pleasant home are to be found magazines and papers which show that the family is interested in mental development. After leaving school he assumed the care of his father's farm and is keeping it up to the high standard of excellence that has always characterized it.

On March 22, 1893, Mr. Stickney married Miss Nellie Gamble, a daughter of Wilson and Margaret (Elder) Gamble. Her father was a prominent farmer of Oxford township and the family are numbered among the pioneers of Henry county as are the Elders, both coming from Pennsylvania. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stickney, namely: Wilson W., Ida M. and Clarke G.

Mr. Stickney has taken quite a prominent part in politics and is now a member of the county republican central committee. He has also served as a member of

the county board of supervisors for eight years and at present is a member of the bridge committee, which is one of the most important, and during his incumbency some of the best bridges of the county have been built. Since he was old enough to serve Mr. Stickney has been a member of the board of education and, being a man of intelligence, is one of its most valued officials. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is as active in his lodge as he is in other lines. Mrs. Stickney is a member of the Presbyterian church and is very active in church and Sunday-school work.

The Stickney homestead is one of the most pretentious and modern in the county, convenient in its arrangements and equipped with the latest improved appliances, while Mrs. Stickney's good taste is shown in the beautiful furnishings. The residence is surrounded by a beautiful lawn, shaded with stately trees. Even the barn and stableyards resemble a well kept park and there is nothing there to mar the landscape. The entire farm is maintained in the most exquisite order, and the sleek stock show the effects of excellent care, Mr. Stickney being a model farmer who conducts his property according to scientific methods. He is a leading citizen of Clover township and his wife is a refined, intelligent lady, devoted to her home and family. The visitor here is always welcomed and hospitably entertained and no one is sent away without being made to feel that at the Stickney homestead the old time neighborly feeling prevails.

---

### SAMUEL ARNETT, SR.

Samuel Arnett, Sr., has passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey and is now enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. He was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1836, and is a son of Louis and Mary Clara (Shelty) Arnett, both of whom were natives of France, having been born near Strassburg. The paternal grandfather was John Arnett, who devoted his life to farming and died in France at the comparatively early age of forty-six years, his son Louis being his only child. The maternal grandfather was Christian Shelty, who was born in France and was serving in the army at the time of the Russian invasion. He probably lost his life at that time for he was never heard from afterward. Unto him and his wife, Mary Clara Shelty, there were born four daughters.

It was in the year 1826 that Mr. and Mrs. Louis Arnett came to the United States, and after living for a time in Waterford and in Buffalo, New York, they removed to Warren, Pennsylvania. Northern Illinois was still a frontier region when in May, 1837, they came to Henry county. So few had been the settlements made in this portion of the state that the land was not yet placed on the market. Mr. Arnett settled upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and after the government placed the land in this district on sale he purchased adjoining tracts, improved the property and there reared his family. As time passed he developed one of the best farms in what is now Loraine township, but later he sold that place and removed to a farm three miles farther west, continuing to make it his home until 1868 when he passed away at the age of



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL ARNETT



seventy-eight years and ten months. His wife died in 1866 at the age of about seventy-two years. They were the parents of twelve children, all of whom reached adult age, but only two are now living, George and Samuel, both of Geneseo.

Samuel Arnett was reared in Loraine township on his father's farm and lived at home until twenty-one years of age. His first schooling was received under private instruction from a man whom his father employed to teach the children. He built a partition in his log cabin, thus forming a little schoolroom, after which he employed the teacher, for he desired that his sons and daughters should have the best advantages in that direction that he was able to secure. The first district school in the neighborhood met in the Evangelical church, which was a little log structure. There he learned to write, he and the other pupils standing on the rostrum, each practicing ten minutes at a time, one giving way to the other. While the methods of instruction in those days were primitive and the branches of learning taught were few, the work done was usually quite thorough and proved an excellent foundation on which to build the superstructure of further knowledge as the pupils went out in the world and began to learn the lessons in the school of experience.

In 1859 Mr. Arnett made a trip to Pike' Peak, traveling overland with an ox-team. The Indians were then numerous, and the buffalo and deer were thick upon the prairie, the former at times having to be driven away from the camp. Mr. Arnett traveled westward with a company of about fifty men in search of gold. He spent two and a half years in the mines near where the city of Manitou, Colorado, now stands, after which he returned to Henry county and for two years engaged in the cultivation of rented land. He first bought a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres in Loraine township, making his home thereon for thirty years, and finally he improved the farm with a new house, new barn and other modern accessories. In 1895 he rented his farm and took up his abode in Geneseo, where he built an attractive and modern residence which he still occupies. He had added to the farm in the meantime, and when he sold that property in 1906 it contained one hundred and eighty-six acres.

On the 15th of November, 1863, Mr. Arnett was married to Miss Catharine Urich, a daughter of Rudolph and Catharine (Rapp) Urich. They became parents of five children: Annie, the wife of Samuel Spath, a resident of Audubon county, Iowa, by whom she has two children—Chester and Helen Libbie; David W., a farmer of Loraine township, who married Emma Deener and has one daughter, Sylvia; Edwin Solomon, who resides on the old homestead in Loraine township and married Annie Myers, by whom he has two sons—Glenn and Dale; Libbie L., who is the wife of William H. Wait, living near Fort Morgan, Colorado; and George W., who resides at Bozeman, Montana. Mrs. Catharine Arnett died May 22, 1906, at the age of fifty-nine years and nine months. On the 1st of August, 1907, Mr. Arnett was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary E. Crouch, the widow of Royal G. Crouch and a daughter of Gardner and Mary P. (Ford) Hunt. Her paternal grandfather was John Hunt, who was the twelfth John in the line of direct descent. He wedded Clarinda Green. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Mary Arnett were Olivet and Mary P. (Post) Ford. Mrs. Arnett was born in Rutland, Vermont, and was

there married to Royal G. Crouch. By that marriage she had four sons and a daughter: Mary Edna, who died in infancy; George Henry, of Bangor, Michigan, who married Ada Sniff and has two sons—Raymond and Lloyd; Herbert Royal, of Abingdon, Illinois, who married Augusta Guild and has two children—Harry and Florence; David Wilbur, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who married Alice Booton and has two sons—Victor and Kenneth; and Merritt Gardner, of Moline, Illinois, who wedded Etta Smith. Mrs. Arnett belongs to the Grace Evangelical Association. Mr. Arnett is a member of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he has been active in its local ranks while his fellow townsmen, appreciative of his sterling worth, elected him to the office of supervisor for three years, while for twenty-three years they continued him in the position of highway commissioner. His official record has been a most creditable one, characterized by unflinching fidelity to duty, and in business affairs his probity has never been called into question. He has made an excellent record, both as a citizen and business man, and the high place which he holds in the regard of his fellow citizens is well merited.

---

#### PETER A. JOHNSON.

Among the prominent and prosperous business men of Cambridge, who from a small beginning in the commercial world have achieved success entirely through their own innate powers and persevering efforts, is Peter A. Johnson, a manufacturer and dealer in agricultural implements, buggies, carriages, automobiles, etc., having resided in this city for the past fourteen years. He was born in Swedonia, Mercer county, Illinois, December 15, 1859, a son of John and Hannah (Hanson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Peter A. Johnson was one of four children born to this union, the others being: August, who is now deceased; John, Jr., residing in Osco township; and Edward, a resident of Cambridge.

John Johnson, the father of our subject, was a carpenter, builder and agriculturist in Sweden. He emigrated to the United States in 1854, and, coming to Illinois, settled in Swedonia, Mercer county, whence he removed to Andover township, Henry county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land. For some time he devoted his time and energies to its further development and improvement, and that his labors were rewarded is indicated in the fact that he finally became the owner of over a section of land in this locality. At different times he lived in Osco and Cambridge, his death having occurred in the latter place in the fall of 1902, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. He survived his wife for several years, she having passed away when about sixty-five years of age. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and people of the highest respectability, whose honorable and upright lives commanded for them the esteem and warm regard of all who knew them.

Peter A. Johnson has lived in Henry county since he was six years old and during his boyhood spent most of his time on the farm in Andover township, attending the district school during the winter months and learning the more valuable

lessons in the great school of experience. He assisted his father in plowing, planting and harvesting, working industriously in field and meadow from the early spring until the crops were garnered in the late autumn. His father, wishing to encourage his efforts, gave him some land to cultivate on his own account and the son engaged in farming in Andover township for a number of years, being now the owner of a good tract of land containing one hundred and sixty acres, which was a part of his father's estate. Subsequent to this time he engaged in the further development of a farm near Cambridge and also conducted an implement business in the town for six years before locating there in 1902. Since then he has conducted a business which, under his capable control and active management, has been developed into substantial proportions. In the year of his arrival in Cambridge he bought his first automobile and at present he engages extensively not only in buying and selling automobiles but all kinds of agricultural implements, buggies, carriages, etc. He owns three business buildings and a foundry where wagons are manufactured and occasionally an automobile.

In April, 1883, occurred the marriage of Peter A. Johnson and Miss Emma E. Young, of Swedonia, Illinois, who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Young, both of whom were natives of Sweden and early settlers of Mercer county, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children: Alfred E., who formerly was in partnership with Fred Cook, the firm engaging in the manufacture of gasoline engines; Lillie E.; and Herbert S. Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, and he gives his political support to the republican party. Although he started in the business world almost empty-handed, he has built up a business of large proportions, which is not only a source of gratifying income to himself but also a credit to the city, and he is, indeed, a worthy representative of commercial interests in the city wherein he is numbered among the men of affluence.

---

#### GEORGE B. HUMFREVILLE, D. D. S.

The remarkable progress of dental science has almost revolutionized dental surgery and made the work of the dentist almost perfection. Day by day new discoveries are being made, better processes invented not only for the replacing of teeth or their preservation after decay commences but for the prevention of trouble of any kind. For these and many other reasons the dental surgeon of today ranks with any other member of the learned professions and in order to gain his degree has to pass through a strict and long course and much practical experience. Kewanee is fortunate in having in its midst so excellent a dentist as Dr. George B. Humfreville, whose work is of such a character as to gain him the confidence of all his patients. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, May 29, 1871, and is a son of Harry and Hannah (Teachout) Humfreville. Soon after his birth, the family removed to Ohio, where they resided until 1880, the father being engaged in the practice of medicine. In the latter year removal was made to Waterville, Kansas, and there George B. Humfreville attended high school.

After finishing his course in high school, the Doctor entered a general store as clerk and thus continued until 1896, when he began the study of dentistry, towards which profession he had long inclined, at the Kansas City Dental College and was graduated from that institution in 1900. Immediately thereafter he began practicing at Waterville, Kansas, where he remained three years and then, in 1903, he came to Kewanee, where he has since remained with profit to himself and to the benefit of the community.

On October 17, 1905, Dr. Humfreville married Anna E. Henry, of Kewanee, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Henry, farming people. Both the Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist church and Mrs. Humfreville is superintendent of the primary department of the Sunday school.

Dr. Humfreville belongs to the Knox County Dental Society and the Illinois State Dental Society. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Commercial Club of Kewanee and is very popular in his fraternal and social connections, while in his professional societies his pronounced skill and knowledge are of service to his fellow members. He is one of the best dentists of Henry county and enjoys a large patronage from some of its best people.

---

#### THOMAS C. COWDEN.

Among the residents of Burns township who are now living retired, their present comfortable financial position being the direct result of former activity and enterprise along agricultural lines, is numbered Thomas C. Cowden, who is also widely known throughout the township by reason of the active and helpful part he has taken in community affairs. Born in Millwood, Guernsey county, Ohio, on the 8th of August, 1847, he is a son of William and Mary (Rogers) Cowden. The father, who was born in Ireland in 1798, came to America in boyhood and, landing at New York city, remained in that place for a short time. He then made his way west to Guernsey county, Ohio, where he secured employment as a farm hand, continuing in that capacity until his marriage. He then purchased a farm to which he removed with his young bride, and there eight of their nine children were born. In 1854 he brought his family to Burns township, Henry county, Illinois, and here purchased a tract of eighty acres of land on section 17. He also took up six more tracts, each consisting of eighty acres of government land near his original purchase, paying for the same one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. Here he reared and educated his family, which had been increased by the birth of one child since the removal from Ohio. The eldest son, William Washington, was killed while serving in the Civil war. Mary became the wife of George Davis, a minister of Hillsdale, Michigan, and they were the parents of two sons, William and John. After the death of her first husband she wedded S. I. Mathews, a farmer who formerly resided in Annawan township but subsequently removed to Westerfield township, where her demise occurred. Joseph, a member of the Union army during the Civil war passed away while home on a furlough, after being confined to the hospital at Nashville for thirteen months. Deborah Ellen married J. G. Walker, a farmer of Burns township who later removed to

Missouri. There the wife passed away when about forty-five years of age. David L., who was also a soldier of the Civil war, is a retired farmer making his home in Cambridge, Illinois. John H., who followed farming, passed away at the early age of twenty-three years. Thomas C., of this review, is the next in order of birth. Jacob G. is also a retired farmer residing in Oklahoma. Matilda Jane, who completes the family, became the wife of Louis Deets, a farmer of Kearney, Nebraska, and passed away in early womanhood. William Cowden, the father, continued to devote his time and energies to agricultural pursuits in Burns township until called to his final rest in 1891. For more than four decades he had survived his wife, who was also a native of Ohio, her death occurring in 1850.

In the district schools near his home Thomas C. Cowden acquired a good knowledge of the various branches of English learning therein taught, and the period of his boyhood and youth was spent under the parental roof, the time not devoted to his text-books being given to assisting his father in the work of the fields, early becoming familiar with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting. When about sixteen years of age he ran away from home and went to Chicago, where, actuated by a spirit of patriotism, he enlisted as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he went to the front and served for over six months or until the close of hostilities. He then returned home and gave his father the benefit of his assistance until twenty-one years of age, when, upon attaining his majority, he started out in life on his own account, locating on a farm of eighty acres which his father had given him adjoining the old homestead. His place now consists of one hundred and twenty acres all in one body. He continued to concentrate his energies upon general agricultural pursuits for a number of years, in the meantime bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and instituting many improvements upon the farm. He erected new barns and outbuildings, built a new windmill and has put in a large amount of tile, by means of which the soil is excellently drained. On the farm is a fine orchard of his own planting, containing apple, peach, pear, plum and cherry trees, all of which bear abundant fruit in season. During the past he devoted much time to stock raising, making a specialty of red Jersey hogs and high grade work horses. He yet owns a full blooded Percheron stallion that is well known throughout this section of the county. For the past five years, however, he has rented his farm, although he retains the overseeing of the place, and that his well directed efforts and intelligently applied labors have been crowned with most gratifying success is indicated by the fact that he is now able to live retired from active duties and enjoy the comforts of life without further recourse to hard labor.

On the 6th of February, 1883, Mr. Cowden was united in marriage in Salisbury, Sheridan county, Missouri, to Miss Anna Michaels, a daughter of Isaac and Margaret (Walker) Michaels and a representative of two old Illinois families, the Walkers being numbered among the first families to settle in McDonough county, while the Michaels were among the first to establish homes in Henderson county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cowden were born two children, both of whom are still at home, namely: Lawrence H., twenty-four years of age; and Flossie E., eighteen years of age. The son has spent the past few years in study and travel,

acquiring his education in the institute at Geneseo and in Brown's Business College at Moline.

Although occupying a prominent position among the residents of Burns township by reason of the success which has attended him in his business ventures, Mr. Cowden is equally well known by reason of the active and influential part which he has at all times taken in public affairs. Early in life he became interested in the politics of the country and, forming his own opinions and rules of conduct, has given stalwart support to the republican party since casting his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant. He has been elected constable three times, was township collector for two years and has been elected assessor three times, his incumbency in that office covering six years. A staunch champion of public education, he has been a school director ever since attaining man's estate and has been clerk of the school board throughout that time with the exception of one year. He has served on the township committee for eight years and is now serving on the county committee, while for eighteen years he was a member of the drainage commission and has recently been elected for another term of three years. Fortunate in possessing ability and character that inspired confidence, the simple weight of his character and ability has brought him into positions of trust and responsibility and he ranks high among the well known and valued citizens of Burns township.

---

### JOHN H. YOUNG.

John H. Young, a successful farmer, stock raiser, feeder and shipper, whose home is on section 8, Osco township, where he has two hundred and twelve acres, was born in Munson township, this county, March 5, 1855. His parents were James and Ann Young, both natives of Scotland, where they grew to maturity and were married and where their eldest child was born. Some time in the '40s they crossed the Atlantic ocean and came to Illinois, locating first in Bureau county. About 1850 they removed to Henry county, where James Young spent the remainder of his days, becoming one of the large landholders of his locality. Eight children were born to him and his wife, one of whom died in childhood and five of whom are still living. Those who grew to maturity were Jennie, who married Sydney Summas and died in Sedgwick county, Kansas, leaving a large family; James, who is now a resident of Munson township, and a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work; Mary Ann, who is the wife of Robert Ruxton and lives in Des Moines county, Iowa, where she is rearing a family of five children; John H., who is the subject of this sketch; William, who married Miss Daisy Tomlinson and passed away, leaving two children; Maggie, who married Theo Souers and lives at Grundy Center, Iowa, where she is rearing four children; and Anna, who married James Ensey and lives in Geneseo, where they are rearing six children. The father became a republican when he was first admitted to citizenship in this republic, but later in his life espoused the cause of the democratic party. Religiously he was identified with the Presbyterian church in Munson township.

John H. Young obtained his education in the common schools of this county, while he received sound training for the responsibilities of life at home under the guidance of his parents. Until after he had reached his majority he remained under the parental roof and then engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself, renting land for the first three years. In the spring of 1881 he went to Hardin county, Iowa, to operate a farm his father had bought there, remaining in that state for about nine years, although he had married in the meantime. He went next to Nuckolls county, Nebraska, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid twenty dollars an acre. During the fifteen years he lived in that state he acquired six hundred and eighty acres, five hundred and twenty of which are still in his possession. In 1906, after the death of his wife's parents, he returned to Illinois, purchasing the family homestead, on which he has since resided. Here he devotes himself to general farming and also raises and feeds large quantities of stock, which he ships to the large markets. Both branches of his business have yielded him a gratifying income, so that he holds a high place among the men of Osco township who are engaged in like pursuits.

On the 12th of August, 1885, Mr. Young married Miss Leonora McClain, a native of Edford township and a daughter of Robert and Leonora (McCoy) McClain. Her father was born in Belfast, County Antrim, Ireland, in March, 1824, and in early life came to the new world. Her mother was also a native of County Antrim, her birth occurring in Ballycastle, August 8, 1829. In August, 1849, she came to the United States and located at Port Kennedy, Pennsylvania. It was in that state that she was married March 1, 1851, to Robert McClain, and they made their home in Port Kennedy until after the birth of three of their children. On coming to Henry county, Illinois, they first located in Edford township, where Mr. McClain purchased a farm, but in 1865 removed to Osco township, which was their home until settling in Morristown in 1879. Throughout his active business life he followed farming and died in Osco, March 4, 1885. In his family were nine children, seven sons and two daughters: William K., born in Port Kennedy, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1852, died in Keokuk, Iowa, September 26, 1903, leaving two children; Robert, born in Port Kennedy, September 22, 1854, died in Osco township, this county, March 17, 1872; Daniel, born in Port Kennedy, November 3, 1856, is living in Nemaha county, Kansas, and is the father of two children; Alexander, born in Edford township, this county, October 22, 1859; also lives in Nemaha county, Kansas, and has one child; Leonora, born in Edford township, October 4, 1861, is now Mrs. Young; Isabelle, born in Edford township, June 3, 1863, is unmarried and lives in Henry county, Missouri; James, born in Osco township, June 20, 1865, is also unmarried and lives in Henry county, Missouri; John, born in Osco township, August 8, 1867, lives in Laredo, Missouri, and is the father of five children; and Archie Robert, born in Osco township, December 20, 1871, lives in Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Young have had three children. James, the eldest, was born in Hardin county, Iowa, June 24, 1886, and was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1909. Robert McClain was also born in that county, February 26, 1888. He died at the age of seventeen and was buried in the cemetery of Grace Episcopal church in Osco. John Harvey was born in Nuckolls county, Nebraska, March 19, 1892. Mr. Young has always been a staunch

adherent of the democratic party but has never sought any office within the gift of the people. He does not affiliate with any church but his wife is a consistent member of Grace Episcopal church and takes an active part in its work.

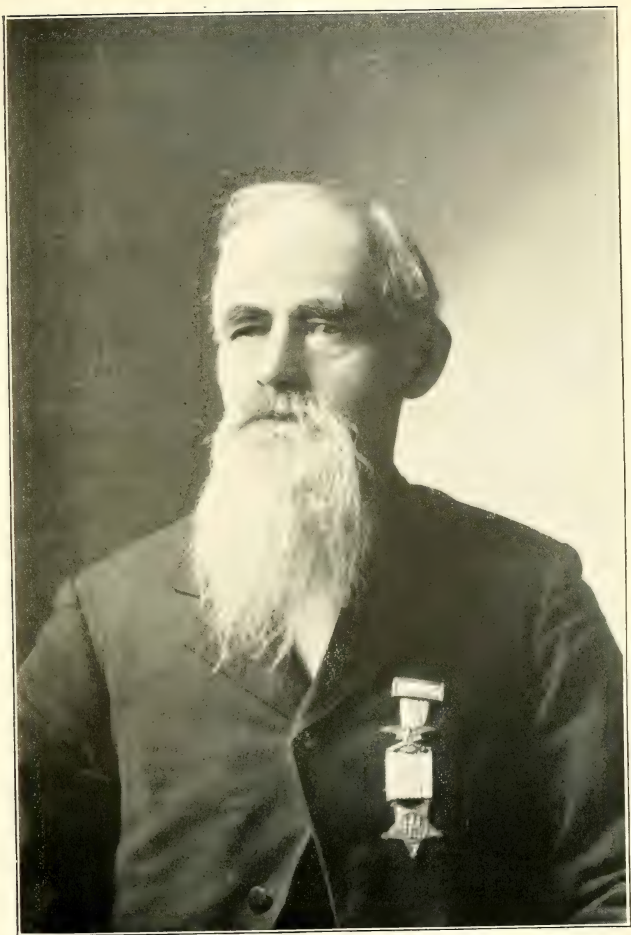
---

### J. B. BALDWIN.

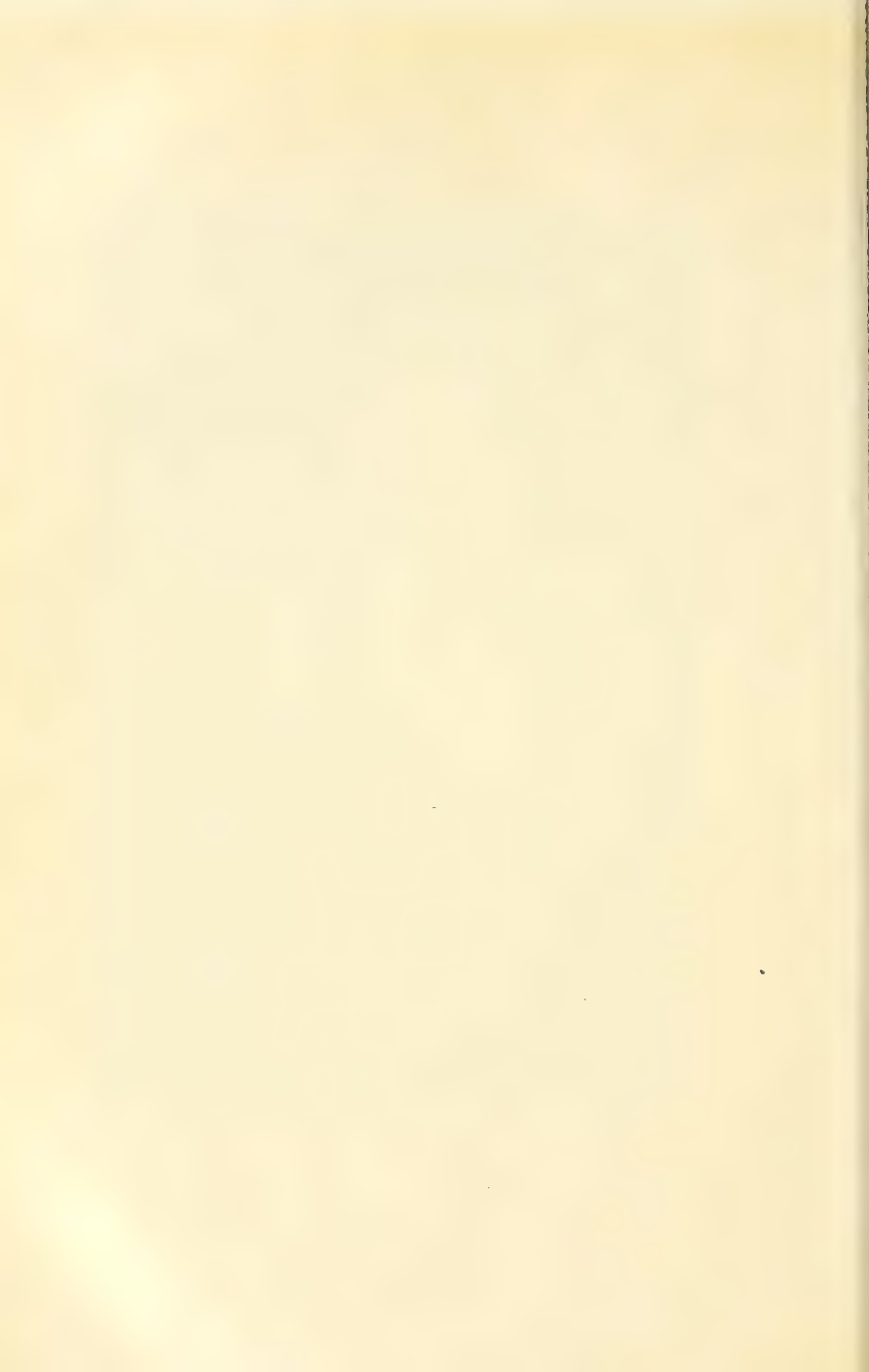
J. B. Baldwin, an old soldier, who is now retired from active business in Annawan, was born in Essex county, New Jersey, December 22, 1839, and is a son of Lemuel and Rachel (Perry) Baldwin, both natives of that state, the father's birth having occurred January 1, 1807, the mother's December 8, 1811. Being left an orphan, Lemuel Baldwin at the age of fourteen, was bound out for seven years to a shoemaker, with whom he learned his trade but with whom he did not serve full time as at the age of nineteen he paid a sum of money as compensation for the remaining two years. He then entered a cigar factory, where he remained until 1844, when he went to Columbus, Ohio, and established a cigar factory. In 1852 the family removed to Peoria, Illinois, though they remained only one year and then returned to Columbus, Ohio, where the father died in 1856. The mother then lived with her children until 1863, when she came to make her home with a sister in Cambridge, Illinois, since three of her sons had gone to the war. Nine years later she removed to Annawan to live with her son, J. B. Baldwin, and in 1874 passed away, being buried in the cemetery at Annawan.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Baldwin were born nine children, only two of whom are now living. Marietta, the eldest, became the wife of J. L. Lee, and lived in Ohio, where he passed away, but she died in Moline, Illinois. They are survived by a son, J. L., a resident of Moline. Alpheus died at Fort Dodge, Iowa. William A., who died in Washington, D. C., was a member of the Forty-third Ohio Regiment and is buried in Arlington military cemetery of Washington. Merritt died in New Haven, Connecticut, about 1900. The fifth child, J. B., is the subject of this sketch. Kennard died in Columbus, Ohio, at the age of six or seven years. Harry H. was a member of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Regiment and is now living at Fort Dodge, Iowa. He has three children: Omer, a photographer of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Richard, a mail carrier of that city; and Dawm, the wife of William H. Gaughlin, a resident of Phoenix, Arizona. Fannie died at the age of five or six years. Sarah, the youngest of this family, became the wife of Oscar Van Brunt, of Cambridge, Illinois. Both have passed away, she in Kansas, he in Oklahoma.

J. B. Baldwin received his first education in the district schools, from which he passed to the high school of Columbus. At the close of his schooldays he obtained employment in a hotel in that city, where he remained until the nation sent a call through the country for her sons to come and fight in her defense. In March, 1862, he enlisted in the Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry for a term of three years. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac and in the fall of 1863 under the command of General Hooker went to Chattanooga, with the Eleventh and Twelfth Army Corps, which were later consolidated and



J. B. BALDWIN



known as the Twenty-eighth Army Corps. The regiment took part in the more important battles of the campaign of the latter years of the struggle. They participated in the battles of Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Second Bull Run, Cedar Mountain, and Cross Keys, while connected with the Army of the Potomac. They were with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign and on the famous march to the sea, and in one of the battles of this period, that known at Pumpkin Vine Creek, Mr. Baldwin received a wound but was able to remain with his regiment. After moving to Chattanooga, they took part in the night battle of Wauhatchie, Tennessee, near Lookout Mountain, and in the battles that occurred at this last-named place and at Missionary Ridge. Continuing on to Atlanta, in the battles or skirmishes of Resaca, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Kleb's Farm, and Peach Tree Creek, Mr. Baldwin and his company acquitted themselves with honor as soldiers and as men. They assisted in the battle and siege of Atlanta and then started on the march to the sea and were in the Carolina campaign, engaging in the battles of Bentonville and Averysboro, on the 19th and 20th of March, 1865. Four months later, July 29, 1865, Mr. Baldwin was honorably discharged from the service, having been at his post during thirty-seven engagements. On returning from the field of carnage, when his services were no longer required, he took up farming, going first to Cambridge, Illinois, in 1865, and the next year coming to Annawan, which has been his home ever since. Some years ago he opened a restaurant here, but with advancing age he has given this up and has retired to a life of comparative rest.

In 1868 Mr. Baldwin married Miss Sarah A. Slater, who was born December 27, 1842, in Coeymans, New York, and was a daughter of F. H. and Mary (Myers) Slater. The father was a farmer in New York state but died in Annawan in 1898 at the age of eighty-nine years. He had a family of nine children, only one now survives, John, who lives near Chicago, where he is engaged in the real-estate business and speculation. Mrs. Baldwin died on the 26th of September, 1881, and was buried in the cemetery at Annawan. She was a consistent member of the Congregational church and passed away attended by the consolations of that faith. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, all deceased. Mary E., born in Annawan in 1872, was graduated from the Annawan high school and for several years before her marriage taught in the schools of Henry county. She died August 8, 1901, leaving a husband, John Keener, and one child, Myrtle E. Anna, also born in Annawan in 1874, died December 21, 1899, and was buried beside her mother in the cemetery at Annawan. She was likewise a graduate of the high school here and was a good musician and artist, having received her instruction from her aunt. The third child died in infancy. Of both his daughters Mr. Baldwin possesses good photographs which in slight measure serve to recall them to memory.

In politics Mr. Baldwin is a republican, and although he has held several offices in the village he can scarcely be called a politician or an office-seeker. His religious affiliation is with the Congregational church, of which, like his wife, he has ever been a consistent member. He belongs to the T. T. Dow Grand Army Post, No. 290, has taken an active interest in its meetings and has attended more than twelve of the national encampments. His way of life has not been one of ease but by industry and thrift he has obtained a comfortable income that will

permit him to pass his remaining years in ease. Since the death of all his wife's people he has lived alone, but he is a man of easy approach, affable in his reception of strangers, kind and considerate of his friends, who are always willing to welcome him as a genial spirit to their gatherings.

---

### HARRY E. BROWN.

There is no profession in which advancement depends more surely upon individual effort than in the law. It is a calling in which wealth or influence avail little or naught toward the attainment of success but where close application, earnest purpose and intellectual strength constitute the foundation on which prosperity is built. Mr. Brown now practicing at the Geneseo bar, has made a creditable record in connection with the work of the courts. He was born at Wyonet, Bureau county, Illinois, April 22, 1872, and is a son of Constant and Annie M. (Wilcox) Brown, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, and are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. It was also in New York that Charles H. Brown, the grandfather, was born and reared. He was of English lineage and a descendant of Peter Brown, who crossed the Atlantic in the Mayflower during the formative period of our nation's history. Charles H. Brown belonged to the state militia of New York and while residing there engaged in business as a merchant tailor. He married Susan H. Hees and after living for many years in the east they removed to Geneseo, where Mr. Brown died when well advanced in years. His widow afterward went to Cleveland, Ohio, where her last days were passed. In their family were two sons and two daughters: Mary, who became the wife of J. E. H. Kelley; Helen, who died when a young lady; Constant, the father of our subject; and Jacob H., of Cleveland, Ohio.

In the maternal line Harry E. Brown can trace his ancestral history back to Joshua and Mollie Wilcox, the great-grandparents. The former served as a valiant soldier of the American army in the Revolutionary war. His son, Oliver G. Wilcox, was born in New York, October 27, 1795, and having arrived at years of maturity was married April 25, 1819, to Elizabeth Hees. He made farming his life work and died August 9, 1887, having for more than twenty-eight years survived his wife who died June 12, 1859. They were the parents of ten children: Josiah, Henrietta, Jerome, Clinton, Eveline, John J., William Henry, Oliver J., George W. and Annie M. The last named became the wife of Constant Brown and they are now residents of Geneseo.

Harry E. Brown resided in Bureau county, Illinois, until twelve years of age and during the period attended the Wyonet public schools. His early educational advantages were afterward supplemented by study in Geneseo where in 1889 he completed the high-school course. After determining upon the practice of law as a life work he became a student in the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, was graduated in 1895 and the same year was admitted to the bar. He then formed a partnership with Emery C. Graves, who is now a judge of the circuit court and for six years they practiced together. Since that time Mr. Brown has been alone and occupies beautiful offices over the Central

Trust and Savings Bank. His clientage is extensive and of a distinctively representative character. He is regarded as a wise counselor and able advocate and in the presentation of his cause before the court seldom fails to win the verdict desired.

On the 28th of April, 1904, occurred the marriage of Mr. Brown and Miss Mabel Welton, a native of Cambridge, Illinois, and a daughter of Frank G. and Ella M. (Clark) Welton. Her mother was born at Rockford, Illinois, while her father was a native of Connecticut. They were early settlers of Henry county, this state, the father coming here in his boyhood days in 1851. He died August 8, 1907, at the age of sixty-four years. He was a soldier of the Civil war, serving in Company B, Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was equally loyal to his country in days of peace and for thirty-two years was county clerk, filling that position at the time of his death. His wife, who was born December 13, 1849, is still living in Cambridge, Illinois. They were the parents of six children: Albert D.; Clarence W.; Kate C., the wife of Judge B. M. Smith, of Chicago; Mabel E., now Mrs. Brown; Susan B., the wife of Loring R. Sheppard; and Thomas, of Cambridge. There is also definite information to be had concerning the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Brown—Albert Welton. He was a native of Connecticut and in the east married Susan E. Bidwell. In 1851 they came to Henry county, Illinois, and were farming people here. His death occurred in Greenwood, Nebraska, in 1902, while his wife passed away in 1906. They were the parents of four children: Frank G., Mary E., George W. and Clarence W.

In his political views Mr. Brown has been an earnest republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise but the honors and emoluments of office have little attraction for him. He is a member of the Methodist church while his wife belonged to the Episcopal church and they occupy a pleasant and attractive home on Main street, which is the abode of warm-hearted and generous hospitality. Mr. Brown is appreciative of the social amenities of life and his genial qualities have won him many friends but his attention is preeminently given to his professional duties, his devotion to his clients' interests being proverbial.

---

### HENRY WASHBURN.

He whose name introduces this review represents a family which has long been prominently known in agricultural circles in Henry county, his native county. He was born on the 1st of September, 1840, in Colona township, in which locality he still makes his home. His parents, Abisha and Isabella (Clapp) Washburn, originally came from Springfield, Massachusetts, arriving in Illinois in May, 1837, being numbered among the early pioneer residents of this county. A full record of the family is given on another page of this volume in the sketch of George Washburn, a nephew of our subject. Abisha Washburn was a farmer by occupation and engaged in that line of activity up until his death. He was progressive and prosperous in his affairs and became a large landowner in Colona township. His death occurred in 1872, his wife having passed away in 1850.

Henry Washburn was the first child born after the arrival of the family in Illinois, and under the parental roof he was reared to manhood. He lost his mother when but ten years of age, and the period of his boyhood and youth were passed under his father's direction. He attended the district schools near his home in the acquirement of an education while his practical training was received between the plow handles. When not engaged with his text-books he assisted his father in the arduous task of opening up a new farm and converting the raw land into rich and abundant fields. None of the modern conveniences and appliances for facilitating farm labor were known at that time, and the work of developing a farm was attended by many obstacles and difficulties. He remained at home, giving his father the benefit of his aid in the management of the family and the operation of the farm until the latter's death, continuing to operate a part of the home farm even after his marriage. After the father's demise one hundred and sixty acres of the estate came into his possession, and he has since made his home upon that farm. He has been eminently successful in his agricultural pursuits and with the passing of the years has been able to add to his original holdings until today he is the owner of three hundred and twenty-seven acres, all under a high state of cultivation and all well improved. In its midst stands a fine modern dwelling while in the rear are found substantial and commodious barns and outbuildings, the place being equipped with all modern accessories that go to make up a model farm of the twentieth century. He has made a close study of agriculture and thoroughly understands the best methods of enriching the soil, while he is up-to-date and systematic in the conduct of his agricultural pursuits, so that he has become recognized as one of the substantial, progressive and prosperous farmers of the locality.

Mr. Washburn has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Zebuline Bailey, the ceremony occurring in September, 1863. She was a daughter of Charles and Charlotte (Callahan) Bailey, a prominent family of Coal Valley, Rock Island county, Illinois, who came to this state from Ohio in the early pioneer days. This union was blessed with five children, three of whom passed away in infancy. Those who survive are: Charles, a successful farmer of the state of Washington; and Clarissa, the wife of Charles Shaffer, of Nebraska. The wife and mother died in November, 1867, and in May, 1869, Mr. Washburn wedded Miss Maria J. Britton, a daughter of Samuel and Jane Britton, English people, who came to Henry county at an early date. This marriage was blessed with four children: Grace, the eldest, died in youth; Walter, at home; Jennie, the wife of William Hannah, who is associated with Mr. Washburn in the operation of the home farm; and Lottie, a student in school.

Mr. Washburn is stalwart in his allegiance to the democracy but has never taken a very active part in local politics, preferring to concentrate his time and attention upon the conduct of his private affairs. He is preeminently public-spirited, however, deeming it the duty of every loyal citizen to support his party at the polls and take an interest in all matters that have for their object the substantial growth and upbuilding of the community. Although he has never desired nor sought public office as the reward for party fealty, nevertheless he was elected by his fellow citizens to the office of road commissioner and he also served as a member of the local school board for a number of years. A man of

progressive and modern ideas, he stands high in the estimation of his fellowmen who are acquainted with his life record from his boyhood days, and his sterling integrity and honorable manhood have won for him a circle of friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances. He is a devoted husband and loving and indulgent father, and he is much given to charity, being well known throughout the community for his many kindly services.

---

### GEORGE G. WIRT.

Oxford township is rich in men whose sterling worth would prove them an acquisition to any locality and among them must be enrolled George G. Wirt. He is a native son of Illinois, having been born September 5, 1856, in Mercer county. His parents were Martin and Esther (Groves) Wirt, the father a native of Lake county, Ohio, the mother born in England and coming to this country when a young girl. The father came to Mercer county, Illinois, when a young man, married there and there spent the rest of his life. He was a farmer and fruit grower, and a nurseryman in a small way. His death occurred some years ago, but his widow still survives.

George G. Wirt grew up on his father's farm and as usual with the sons of a man engaged in agricultural pursuits, found no lack of employment. He was educated in the public schools, supplementing the knowledge there acquired by a course in the Bushnell Business College. For several years he engaged in the nursery business in Mercer county, and in 1889 he went to Salem, Oregon, where he devoted his energies to the same industry in partnership with his brother William, who remained in the west for a year after his return. Upon coming back to Mercer county he married and brought his bride with him to Alpha, Henry county, where he has since lived and encountered success. He still clings to the fruit and nursery business, which his father before him found congenial and profitable. He grows all kinds of hardy fruits and berries, and shade and ornamental trees. One of his specialties is strawberries and strawberry plants. He handles the finest varieties of nursery stock obtainable and consequently commands the best prices. He shows his progressiveness by each year issuing a catalogue, and his trade covers central Illinois and part of Iowa and Wisconsin, even extending into the Pacific states and Canada. With a fine record for good stock and honest dealing, his business has increased each year until it has assumed large proportions.

Mr. Wirt was married in December, 1891, to Miss Rachel Ann Sloan, a daughter of John and Rachel Sloan, who resided near New Boston in Mercer county, of which they both were natives. Both parents have for some years been dead. Mr. and Mrs. Wirt have two children, a son and a daughter, Harold and Mabel. The son is a graduate of the Alpha high school, in which the daughter is still a student.

In his political convictions Mr. Wirt is a loyal republican, not active in political affairs but always interested. He has served as road commissioner; was a town clerk for several years and is now, as he has been for a long term of years,

a member of the town board. He holds membership in Alpha Lodge, I. O. O. F., and in the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Wirt and his family attend the Methodist church and are liberal contributors, although not members. Their home, which is among the most imposing in the town, is situated near the southern boundary of the village of Alpha and is equipped with all the modern conveniences and comforts. In his business relations, his home life, and as a member of the community, Mr. Wirt is entitled to the respect which he receives.

---

### WILLIAM R. GOODRICH.

One of the special features in the towns and small cities of Illinois is the location in them of men who, having spent the years of their business activity in hard work, have now retired and are prepared to take more interest in local affairs. Having the time and opportunity, they are able to give the best of themselves to the betterment of their community and they are therefore numbered among the most desirable residents of the places in which they see fit to locate. Kewanee is fortunate in having a number of these retired business men in its midst, and one deserving of more than special mention is William R. Goodrich. He enjoys the distinction of being one of the few in this part of the country who were born in the Sandwich Islands, his birth having occurred in Hilo, Hawaii, February 20, 1832, at a time when his father, the Rev. Joseph Goodrich, was a missionary of the Congregational church to the island.

Joseph Goodrich and his wife, Martha (Barnes) Goodrich, were both born in Wethersfield, Connecticut, of English descent. By trade he was a ship carpenter, but felt called upon to devote himself to the ministry and having been ordained he was sent to Hawaii in 1822. During the many years he spent in that far-away land, Mr. Goodrich accomplished a wonderful amount of good and had the satisfaction of increasing the membership of his church until it numbered five thousand souls. It finally became the largest mission in the world. Having ended his pastorate there, this excellent man returned to his old home in 1836, and that same fall journeyed to Henry county, Illinois, making the trip from Chicago by wagon. Arriving here he located in what is now Kewanee township and following the custom of pioneers, entered one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land and one hundred and twenty acres of timber land. The death of the Rev. Joseph Goodrich occurred February 19, 1852, upon the farm he had secured from the government. No words are adequate to express the good accomplished by this missionary, but the results of his work still live and keep his memory green.

William R. Goodrich only attended school held in a primitive log building, which served as both schoolhouse and church edifice, but has never failed to learn from experience and is a well informed man. During the time he was attending school, he helped his father upon the farm, and remained with him until the father's death. Shortly afterward, he began learning the trade of a carpenter and working at it. In 1855 he built the first schoolhouse in Kewanee, for H. G. Little and Nelson Lay. It was a one-story building fourteen by twenty-

four feet, and the community was proud of it at that time. After four years' work at his trade, Mr. Goodrich erected a building and started the first bakery in Kewanee, but in three years' time turned it into a restaurant. This he conducted and also worked at gunsmithing until 1886, when he sold his interests and since then has been enjoying a well earned repose.

On November 22, 1857, occurred the marriage of Mr. Goodrich and Miss Harriet M. Slocum, who is a daughter of L. O. Slocum, a shoemaker, who came to Kewanee in 1856. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich are five in number, as follows: William B., of Chicago; Roland S., of southern Oregon; Frederick Grant, of Kewanee; Charles E., also of Kewanee; and Lewis J., an osteopathic physician of Santa Barbara, California.

Ever since the organization of the republican party Mr. Goodrich has affiliated with it and staunchly supported its candidates. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a trustee for six years, and for fourteen years he has acted as its janitor. During his active life Mr. Goodrich was a shrewd business man, who looked after his own interests while guarding those of his customers, and he established himself firmly in the confidence and respect of the community.

---

### ROBERT J. HAWTHORNE.

Robert J. Hawthorne owns a farm of eighty acres on section 22, Burns township, on which he makes his home, and he likewise operates one hundred and sixty acres in Burns township, belonging to his wife. Mr. Hawthorne was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1856. His father, Robert Hawthorne, was born in County Derry, Ireland, and when a young man came to the new world, locating in Philadelphia, where he worked as a machinist, having learned his trade in the old country. When only about thirty years of age, his finger was accidentally caught in a machine and cut off, and later blood poison developed, which caused his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Esther McRell, was a daughter of Robert McRell, a native of County Derry, Ireland, who came to America at an early day. Following the death of Mr. Hawthorne, his wife came with her three small children to Henry county from Philadelphia and in this section reared her family and spent her remaining days, her death occurring in Burns township in 1906, when she was seventy-six years of age.

Robert J. Hawthorne was a little lad of seven years at the time the home was established in Henry county. He was the second in order of birth, having a sister older and a brother younger. Prior to the removal from Philadelphia the son had attended the public schools of that city for two years. He resumed his studies in the district schools of Burns township, after which he went to Jacksonville, Illinois, where he pursued a course in Brown's Business College, while later he spent one year in a literary college in that city and still later spent a similar period in the Illinois College at that place. Having thus prepared himself for starting out in business on his own account, Mr. Hawthorne then returned to Burns township and engaged in teaching for two years. However,

farm life seemed to appeal more favorably to him and at the end of that time he purchased his home farm of eighty acres, located on section 22, Burns township, and this he has since continued to cultivate. He has here erected a nice country home, has built all the barns and outbuildings that are seen on the place, having a grain elevator and a corn crib with a capacity of four thousand bushels. He has also put up a windmill and installed a four horse power gasoline engine. In addition to cultivating his own land, Mr. Hawthorne also operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Burns township, belonging to his wife. In addition to his home farm he likewise owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Oklahoma. He raises Poland China hogs to a considerable extent and also raises cattle.

Mr. Hawthorne was married in Galva, Illinois, on the 18th of November, 1880, the lady of his choice being Miss Lucy Bason, a daughter of John and Eva (Gabler) Bason, the former a native of Peoria county, Illinois, while the latter was born in Germany. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hawthorne have been born seven children: Raymond J., who is engaged in farming in Burns township; Mabel, the wife of William J. Binge, who is also engaged in farming in this township; Rose, a young lady of twenty-three years, now engaged in teaching in her home district; Elmer G., who is twenty years of age and is assisting his father on the farm; Clarence, who died at the age of eighteen months; Edith, who at the age of thirteen years, is attending school; and Edna May, ten years of age, and also in school.

Politically Mr. Hawthorne is a democrat and always takes an active part in local affairs. The confidence which the public places in him is indicated in the fact that for eighteen years he served as township treasurer, while for a similar period he served as township clerk and for nine years filled the office of school director. His fraternal relations connect him with the Elks lodge at Kewanee. The spirit of self-help is the source of all genuine worth in the individual and this truth is abundantly verified in the life of Mr. Hawthorne. Steadily pursuing his way undeterred by the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he is achieving a prosperity of which he has every reason to be proud.

---

#### DR. ROBERT T. WHITE.

Dr. Robert T. White, veterinary surgeon of Annawan and assessor of the township of the same name, is one of the best known men of Henry county and certainly no one stands higher in the estimation of his neighbors. Not only is he an expert veterinarian, but he is an upright, public spirited man, and he and Mrs. White are noted for their generosity to others less fortunate than they. Dr. White was born in Kewanee, Illinois, June 14, 1860, a son of Hugh and Elizabeth (Grape) White.

Hugh White, born in Wellsburg, West Virginia, in 1834, was a landowner and importer of heavy draft horses, going abroad ten times for his fine animals. In 1854 he came to Illinois, settling in Peoria, and was an engineer for three or four years but in 1858 he moved to Henry county. For some time he conducted



ROBERT T. WHITE



a flour mill in Annawan and then turned his attention to dealing in horses and continued along this line until his demise, March 24, 1906. His remains were interred in Annawan cemetery. Fraternally he was a Mason. Politically he preferred to support the man rather than be confined by party lines, and he served on the town board of Annawan. His wife was born in Germany in 1832 and survives, making her home with a daughter in Minneapolis. The five children born to them were as follows: Henry R., deceased; Robert T.; Mrs. L. H. Bowhan, who lives in Minneapolis; Mrs. Mary E. Tolman, who resides at Red Oak, Iowa; and Mrs. George Squires, who lives at Mineral, Illinois.

Dr. White was educated in the public schools of Annawan, later attending the Chicago Veterinary College, from which he was graduated in 1890. He took a post-graduate course at McKillip's School of Chicago. Having thus completed his studies and fitted himself for his profession, Dr. White located at Annawan, where he has built up a large and flourishing practice that extends all over the county. In connection with his profession, he belongs to the state and national veterinary societies. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias order. In his political faith he is a democrat, but like his father believes more in worth than party principles. He has served as a member of the village council and president and member of the school board, and at present is assessor of Annawan township.

On September 29, 1881, Dr. White married Miss Ursula Slutz, who was born in Holmes county, Ohio, near Wooster, October 14, 1865, a daughter of Grafton and Sarah (Brown) Slutz.

Her father was born in Wooster, May 8, 1845, and her mother was born in the same place in April, 1846. They were married April 3, 1861, at Massillon, Ohio. Mr. Slutz was a professor in the Wooster schools and an excellent penman, and for thirty-two years after coming to Kewanee he continued teaching, being one of the best known educators in Henry county, and he received the highest salary paid to Annawan's teachers. He also conducted a store at Wethersfield, after which he began canvassing for an eastern firm and was killed by a train, October 19, 1906. His widow survives and has lived with Mrs. White since her husband's demise. They were the parents of five children, namely: Ursula, now Mrs. White; William, who died when eight months old; Harriet, the wife of Rollin Becker, of White Falls, Michigan; Myron Foster, deceased; and J. Walter, who lives in Carpenterville, Illinois. Mr. Slutz was a strong democrat, as well as a capable man in every particular, coming of a brilliant family. A brother of his is a clergyman in Colorado.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. White, all in Annawan. They are as follows: Florence, born February 16, 1883, married H. H. Treffer of Davenport, Iowa, a ladies' tailor, and she has made two trips to Europe. Mabel, born August 31, 1884, married H. P. Slater of Solon, a druggist, who owns his store. She attended the hospital training school at Geneseo and also at Galesburg, practicing at Belvidere, Illinois, with marked success. Elizabeth, born October 22, 1886, married William Atkinson and they live in Elgin, Illinois, where he is a train dispatcher, but his people reside at London, Canada. Mrs. Atkinson is a graduate of the Annawan schools. Hugh White, born October 24, 1894, is now attending St. Ambrose School at Davenport, Iowa. Harriet, born July 7,

1896, is attending school in Annawan, as well as studying music with the Catholic Sisters. A born musician, her parents have given her every advantage and are very proud of her talent. The youngest of the family is William, born April 1, 1898.

Dr. and Mrs. White have spent the twenty-eight years of their married life in Annawan, twelve in a cottage across the street from their present beautiful home, which is simply elegant in every detail and a gift from his mother to Dr. White. It is the finest in the city and would bear comparison with any home of its size in the country. It is beautifully furnished and thoroughly modern in every respect. The house is set on an elevation from which the well kept lawn rolls down to the street. They keep several horses and have several handsome vehicles.

Mrs. White is a member of the Royal Neighbors but she devotes most of her time outside her home to Christian Science, being an ardent advocate of the teachings of Mrs. Eddy. In her placid face are reflected only good, true, high purposes and lofty thoughts, and through her influence, unconsciously though it may be exerted, many are helped to appreciate the beauty of her life.

In addition to other interests, Dr. White owns four hundred and eighty acres in North Dakota, and as a relaxation from his professional duties he goes there each summer to take part in the threshing. He has friends and patrons all over Henry county, and he is appreciated not only as a professional man but also because of his sterling traits of character. Neither he nor his wife ever turn any one away from their doors empty handed. Whenever help is needed, they can be counted upon to supply it. Dr. White's office is on his home place in a neatly constructed little building, so that he is not long away from his family to whom he is so devoted. As a veterinary, he has few equals in this part of the state, and the success which is his has been well earned.

---

### FRANK G. JOHNSON.

Frank G. Johnson, a citizen of Andover township, by birth as well as by choice, must be numbered among that admirable coterie who command the respect which the world instinctively pays to genuine worth. The date of his birth was January 8, 1859, his parents being Peter J. and Sarah (Larson) Johnson. Both father and mother were natives of Sweden and came to this country about 1854 when still quite young and here united their hands and fortunes in marriage. The father spent his life in tilling the fertile soil of Andover township, and he lived until 1897, surviving his wife by twenty years.

Like so many of America's worthiest citizens Frank G. Johnson was reared upon a farm and obtained his education in the public schools. In 1879, when about twenty years of age, he severed home ties and went to Colorado, where he engaged in agriculture for four years. His next move took him still farther west to Seattle, Washington, where he remained two years in the pursuance of various occupations, and then removed to Stockton, California. His residence there continued until 1893, being variously employed. On account of his father's failing

health he then returned to Andover and resumed farming, which he has since followed. Broadened by wide experience with men and diverse sections of country he was especially well fitted to take his place as a public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Johnson chose for his wife one of Henry county's daughters, Miss Victoria Young, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Young, of Lynn township, are prominent in their community. Their marriage was celebrated March 11, 1903, and three children have been born to them. Urban, the second in order of birth, was accidentally killed by the kick of a horse when only two years of age. A son and a daughter, Marvin C. and Olga, are not yet of school age. The family make their home on a farm adjacent to the village of Andover.

Mr. Johnson is a loyal republican and by no means one of those who play a passive role in matters political. He has frequently represented his township at party conventions, and he is a member of the school board of Andover, a service which he has been called upon to give for a number of years. In 1908 he was elected a member of the county board of supervisors from Andover township and he is a member of the important committee on finance. Both Mr. Johnson and his wife are identified with the Evangelical Lutheran church and are very active in the support of it and its excellent projects. He is preeminently a public-spirited man and believes that public improvements should keep pace with the spirit of the times. He is a friend of good schools and all other movements calculated to advance public morals and commercial prosperity. Having said this it seems almost unnecessary to add that he stands high in the estimation of the people.

---

### WILLIAM THOMAS STEVENS.

The citizens of Annawan township who do not know William Thomas Stevens are few and scattered, for not only is he one of the prosperous farmers and stockmen of this township but he has played a conspicuous part in local public affairs and in various organizations of a fraternal and social nature. One of Henry county's native sons, he was born in Alba township, December 17, 1863, his parents being Joseph and Catherine (Lamb) Stevens. The family was established in Illinois by Thomas Jefferson Stevens, the grandfather of William Thomas Stevens, who came here in 1838. He bought land at Buda, Bureau county, and there passed the remainder of his days.

His son, Joseph Stevens, the father of our subject, was born in Canterbury, New Hampshire, June 29, 1832, and was about six years of age when his parents made the tedious journey across the mountains and prairies to Illinois. He lived in Bureau county until he became of age, when, with the intention of establishing a home of his own he came to Annawan, Henry county, where he engaged in farming in partnership with his brother-in-law. Later he clerked in a store in the village and then, in 1861, having married, he secured some land in Alba township, north of town, on which he made his home for the next two years. At the end of that period he bought eighty acres of the farm on which his son, William T., now lives, paying ten dollars an acre for it. Thereon he put up a frame house sixteen by twenty-eight feet, which stood and was habitable, although additions had

been made to it from time to time, until April 14, 1880, when it was burned. The loss was partially covered with insurance, however, and Mr. Stevens built another house later, which his son now occupies. In his business he was successful beyond the average, as is indicated by the fact that he added forty-seven acres to his landholdings and was prominent in local affairs, for he was justice of the peace for twenty years and served as road supervisor, school trustee and school director. In every capacity he proved that he was a man to be depended upon, one who held a high standard of ethics, and one who would not sacrifice truth or the public for the sake of personal benefit.

On the 2d of May, 1861, Joseph Stevens wedded Miss Catherine Lamb, who was born in Selkirk, Scotland, May 21, 1835. She came to America with her parents in 1849, and for a year or two they lived in Boston, Massachusetts, whence they removed to Morris, Illinois, and finally came to Annawan, Henry county, where her father, William Lamb, became the first station agent of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway. He held that position until his death, which occurred in 1855. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and four are still living. Cora Margaret was born in Alba township. William T., the subject, is the second of the family. Gertrude was born in Annawan township and died at the age of two years. Charles J. was born in Annawan, August 8, 1869, is now a conductor on the Rock Island Railway and lives in Annawan. He wedded Miss Grace Harris and they have four children. Lottie B. was born in Annawan township, May 28, 1872, and is now living in the village. She has not married. Mr. Stevens' long and useful life was brought to a close September 18, 1908, and his wife died on the 5th of April following. Their graves were made in Annawan cemetery.

William Thomas Stevens spent his boyhood days on the farm where he now lives and as a pupil in the district school obtained a substantial training in the branches that generally constitute the public school curriculum. He assisted his father in the work in the fields and remained with him until he was about twenty-eight years of age, when he assumed the management of the home place, and has since continued to operate it. It embraces one hundred and twenty-seven acres, for the estate has never been divided, and its soil, rich and arable, naturally, is being cultivated by such careful, scientific and progressive methods that bountiful harvests are annually gathered from it. Besides growing the crops best adapted to the character of his land and the climate, Mr. Stevens has also engaged extensively in raising, feeding and shipping stock and has found that this business is a profitable investment also. Industry, perseverance and good management have been the means through which he has attained his success, which is both substantial and gratifying.

On the 26th of January, 1893, in Annawan, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stevens and Miss Muriel McDermand, who was born in that village, October 6, 1872, and is a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Topping) McDermand. The former was a native of Nova Scotia, and when a mere child was taken by his parents to Canada, where he lived until he was almost grown, when he came to Illinois. In Geneseo, Henry county, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Topping, who was a native of Canada but had resided in Geneseo since she was twelve. She was Mr. McDermand's second wife and became the mother of the

following children: one who died in infancy; Ernest, who wedded Miss Anna Swanger and lives in North Dakota, where he is rearing their three children; Muriel, who is Mrs. Stevens; Blanche, who is the wife of James Smith, of Cashmere, Washington; Prudence, the wife of Leroy Proper, who lives at East Lake, Michigan, and is the mother of three children: James William, who married Ursula Eyre and lives at Tiskilwa, Illinois, where he is rearing his three children; and Ella, who is the widow of William J. Johnston, of Toulon, Illinois, and the mother of one child. Mr. and Mrs. McDermand were residents of Annawan for a long period.

In Mr. and Mrs. Stevens' family there are seven children, namely: Lyman, who was born in Annawan, October 27, 1893; Morrill, who was born May 13, 1895, and passed away at the age of two and one-half years; Lottie, born February 19, 1897; Joseph, who was born September 16, 1898, and died in infancy; John, November 6, 1901; Charles, April 14, 1904; and Catherine, November 29, 1907.

Politically Mr. Stevens has always endorsed the democratic party and cast his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland in 1888. A man of liberal views he has rendered the township valuable service as school director and school trustee, and as highway commissioner he exerted his influence toward improving the roads of this section of the county. In the several fraternal organizations in this locality he has also played a conspicuous part, for he belongs to Annawan Camp, No. 117, M. W. A., has been a Knight of Pythias and with his wife belongs to the Royal Neighbors of Annawan. In the first mentioned society he has filled several offices of the local camp, of which he has been venerable consul, and which he represented at the head camp in 1897. He enjoys the friendship of many whose names are not included on the roll call of these societies, for his life, based upon substantial principles of upright manhood, is one which commands general respect, and in the highest degree, from those who have known him from boyhood.

---

### JOHN CURRAN.

Andover township acknowledges itself a debtor in the highest sense to County Donegal, Ireland, for one of its most valuable citizens. There in August, 1844, was born John Curran, his parents being William and Celia (McFadden) Curran. These worthy people lived and died in their native country, and John Curran must have been a youth of unusual pluck, for in the spring of 1861, when only seventeen years of age, he started out as a soldier of fortune, leaving the parental roof to cross the seas to America. He remained throughout the summer in Philadelphia, but in the fall journeyed to Cambridge, Illinois, where a brother, Barnard, and a sister, Ellen, had preceded him. The sister is still a resident of Henry county, but the brother went west with the opening of the country and is now a citizen of Oklahoma. After his arrival in Henry county, Mr. Curran was for some years engaged in farm work by the month. For five years after his marriage in 1870 he devoted his energies to the cultivation of a tract of land in Western township and in 1876 took possession of his present farm in

Andover township. Starting with no capital whatever except that valuable adjunct, a determination to succeed, he exercised the strictest economy and bought land until he is now the owner of two hundred and two splendid acres, all well improved and cultivated.

On December 16, 1870, Mr. Curran was united in marriage to Miss Carrie S. Linn, a daughter of Samuel and Christine Linn, who came from Sweden in the early '50s. Mr. Linn became a prosperous farmer, but both he and his wife have passed to their reward. To Mr. and Mrs. Curran have been born five children: Mary E., now Mrs. Charles Holtman, of Andover township; John L., a resident of Henry county; and Lenore, Esther and Daniel F., at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Curran and their children are members of the Catholic church, and exercise an influence for good in the community. In politics Mr. Curran is democratic, but though interested in public matters has never played an active part in their management, except that for several years he gave his services as a member of the township school board. He is the embodiment of genuine Irish wit and keenness, with a lively appreciation of the foibles of human nature. In addition to this quality, which adds to his attractiveness, he is everywhere regarded as a man of honor and integrity, a robust exponent of what is best among men. In short the life of Mr. Curran in its every aspect is worthy of emulation.

---

#### GUS J. JACOBSON.

Gus J. Jacobson, a well known agriculturist of Hanna township, was born on a farm near Christinehamn, Sweden, December 31, 1861, and is a son of Peter and Emma Frederica (Nelson) Jacobson. The father came to America about 1867, made his way to Illinois and in the mines at Kewanee found employment. For two years he toiled diligently and by strict economy was able to send the money to Sweden which would bring his wife and six children to this country. The family located in Kewanee and then two years later removed to Cleveland, Hanna township, where for several years the father continued to mine coal. Then he rented some land from Howard Deming and engaged in farming, removing subsequently to Phenix township, where he remained two years, and later to Colona township, where he continued to operate a rented farm. He subsequently bought eighty acres in the last mentioned township and has there since made his home.

Gus J. Jacobson received but a limited education for he was early called upon to assist in the work of the farm. At the age of twenty-one he undertook to make his own way in the world. For one season he remained at home in the employ of his father and then engaged in mining both in this county and in Fulton. He became a skilled and industrious workman and was given the position of weigher in both mines. In 1898 Mr. Jacobson purchased the farm on which he now lives. It embraces one hundred and twenty acres, on section 33, Hanna township, and, though considered improved when he bought it, has greatly increased in value in the eleven years it has been in his possession. This is but natural for he has put up a number of good buildings, has remodeled and improved those already standing, and by methodical cultivation has enhanced the fertility of the soil.

On the 1st of October, 1887, Mr. Jacobson wedded Miss Albertina Eleanora Stohl, of Hanna township. She was born near Gardner, Grundy county, Illinois, and is the daughter of John M. and Mary Stohl. Five children have been born of this union: Roy, William, Verne, Gertrude and May. Mr. Jacobson has always given his support to the candidates of the republican party, in whose platform he sincerely believes, and has always taken a vital interest in public affairs. While he was a resident of Cable, Mercer county, he served on the village board and also as a school director. When he removed to Sherrard the interest he evinced in local matters was rewarded by his election to the position of village trustee. In the spring of 1908 he was elected supervisor of Hanna township and appointed to the committee on county accounts. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and belongs to the lodge at Colona, in which he has served as senior deacon and senior warden, and in which he held the chair of worshipful master for three years. On the occasion of the holding of the Grand Lodge in Chicago he represented his Colona brethren and has frequently been accorded other marks of their esteem. The lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Colona also include him upon their roll-call, and with Mrs. Jacobson he belongs to the Eastern Star and to the Daughters of Rebekah. A man who has prospered in his own affairs, he has won the respect and confidence of all who have come in contact with him, and has gained the esteem of those who know him more intimately as a friend.

---

#### HENRY W. NELSON.

Where one finds the Swedish element largely assimilated, one is apt to find an intelligent, upright, prosperous community and this is particularly true of Lynn township. Henry W. Nelson, born May 19, 1866, is of Swedish stock, his parents, Nels and Anna Sophia (Johnson) Olson, having come to America from Sweden in 1864 as young married people with one child. They made their way westward to Illinois and settled in Lynn township, Henry county, where some relatives had preceded them. The father made his livelihood in agriculture. In his family were eight children, some of whom died in infancy. Josephine is now Mrs. W. H. Gay, of Los Angeles, California; Henry W. is the subject of the sketch; Theodore died in August, 1903; and Ida is now the wife of Theodore Wangstrom, of Clover township. The father was a loyal republican and interested in public affairs, and he and his wife were faithful supporters of the Lutheran church. His death, which occurred January 16, 1895, deprived the community of a citizen of high standing. His widow survived him until September 26, 1909, both of them being buried in the Andover cemetery.

Henry W. Nelson enjoyed the wholesome advantages peculiar to country life, attending the Andover schools in the winter months and in the summer time working upon the farm. In the summer of 1885 he left the parental roof and went to McPherson, Kansas, where he was engaged as the foreman of a large farm. When the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway was built from Belleville, Kansas, to Colorado Springs, Mr. Nelson secured employment on the construction work. Finally he began to think of returning to Illinois, but deferred his return about two months in order to cast his first vote for president, which he gave to

Benjamin Harrison. Upon his return to Andover township he resumed his agricultural activities. In 1891 he removed to an excellent farm in Lynn township (section 12, range 1, township 15) and remained there for seventeen years, in the enjoyment of much material prosperity. In 1908 he decided upon the important step of changing his location and took up his residence upon his present property, one and one-fourth miles west of Lynn Center, the land being known as the George B. Pillsbury farm. Here he engages in general farming, paying special attention to the breeding and feeding of cattle and hogs. By this change Mr. Nelson finds himself lord of a fair domain of six hundred and thirty-two fertile, well cultivated acres.

On February 21, 1893, some four years after his return from Kansas, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Johnson, a daughter of Charles P. and Charlotte (Anderson) Johnson, Swedish people who came to the United States in 1864. The father was a farmer and at one time a large landowner and very prosperous. He died in January, 1901, and his widow, who survives him, makes her home with Mr. Nelson and his wife. Seven children have come to bless the Nelson home, these being Hazel I., Rachel O. J., Floyd H., Elva Leona, Ervin W., Doris Emogene and Beatrice Eveline.

Mr. Nelson is a staunch republican and a decidedly active one. His record furnishes eloquent proof of the high regard in which he is held by his fellowmen. He is a member of the republican central committee, on which he has served for several years; he has been a delegate to county, district and state conventions; he has served on the election board for six years; from 1905 until 1906 he was presiding judge; in 1906 he was made township clerk and each year since has been reelected; he was township collector in 1900; and served seven years on the school board, his connection with it only being severed upon his removal from Lynn township. He is a valued member of Sherman Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., at Orion, and has filled some of the offices. Since 1894 he has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Andover. The entire family are active in church work, holding membership in the Lutheran church at Andover. Mr. Nelson may be counted upon always to give his support to public improvements and to all measures tending to the general good. Having the interest of society at heart, he is a student of conditions and remedies. A "pusher" in every sense of the word, his influence is always actively at work for whatever he believes is right and as actively at work against whatever he believes to be wrong.

---

#### OSCAR F. GLENN.

Oscar F. Glenn, a farmer, stock raiser and feeder, whose home is on section 12, Western township, where he operates two hundred and forty acres belonging to J. W. Stearns, of Orion, is one of the successful younger agriculturists of his section of the county. He is descended from a race of men who not only braved the hardships of the pioneering days but were eager to give their lives in the support of the Union when it was in need of the loyalty of every son. However, he is the only member of the family, bearing the name, who is now living here, where

his great-uncle, James Glenn, is said to have been the first man to make a plow and turn a furrow in Henry county. He was born in the city of Hannibal, Missouri, January 1, 1873, and is a son of Thomas W. and Mary (Holshue) Glenn. One of the stories his father enjoys telling to this day, is how at the age of fifteen or sixteen, no older, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, determined that despite his youth he would assist in winning some battles for the nation which had been formed in the name of freedom. His service lasted three years. It was an incident in his childhood, and as the years rolled by seemed ever farther from the realities of life which accosted him daily in his endeavors to make a home for himself and his family. When his son Oscar was about three years of age, he brought his family to Henry county, locating in Colona township, where he had procured a tract of one hundred and twenty acres. It remained his home for upward of twelve years, when he took his wife and children to Dawson county, Nebraska. At first he secured only one hundred and sixty acres, but in the course of years he became the owner of about twelve hundred acres in that state, which has remained his home to the present, the place of his residence being the town of Plattsmouth.

Oscar F. Glenn, who was three years old when his parents came to Illinois, grew to manhood upon the farm in Colona township, receiving a fair education in the public schools of his district. He was about eighteen when his father went to Nebraska and three years later he began his own career as a farmer in that state. One season's experience upon a tract of land he rented from his father sufficed to discourage him from trying to make his fortune there, for the crops failed entirely and he was compelled to start at the beginning again. Accordingly he returned to Henry county, found employment as a farm hand, and in the course of three years, having saved his wages carefully, he amassed a sum sufficient to warrant his renting another tract of land. For a time he lived in Edford township, then spent two years in Osco township, and finally in 1902 removed to the place on now lives. His operations here have met with pronounced success, so that in 1908 he was able to go to Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, where he purchased two hundred and sixty-six acres, paying at the rate of fifteen dollars per acre.

In Osco township, October 1, 1899, Mr. Glenn wedded Miss Maude Chamberlain, a daughter of Nathan V. and Margaret J. (Calhoun) Chamberlain. The former was a native of Missouri, and through his grandmother, who belonged to the Allen family, was a descendant of Ethan Allen, famous in the annals of the Revolutionary war. He came to Henry county with his parents shortly after the close of the Civil war, and here met the woman who, later became his wife. She, Miss Margaret J. Calhoun, before her marriage, was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, and came to Henry county, Illinois, with her parents after the culmination of hostilities between north and south. In that struggle her brother, W. F. Calhoun, had participated, having served throughout the four years, and received the rank of sergeant in recognition of his valiant deeds. Her son, Allen Dill Chamberlain, was also a soldier, for he enlisted in the army that was recruited for the Spanish war, being enrolled as a member of Company B, Sixth Illinois Infantry. He died after the close of the struggle in Evansville, Indiana.

Mrs. Glenn was born in Geneseo, July 5, 1878, and grew to maturity in this county, in whose public schools she received a fair education. At the time of her

marriage she was making her home with a sister, Mrs. W. E. Weidlein, of Osco township. Our subject and his wife have three children: Gladys Mary, who was born in Edford township, January 6, 1901; Doris Elizabeth, born in Western township, July 29, 1907; and Grace Gretchen, also born in Western township, May 16, 1909.

Mr. Glenn has espoused the cause of the republican party but has evinced no desire to participate in the public life of the township. His work, however, and the fair name and success which he is rapidly winning for himself entitles him to the respect and good will of his fellow citizens which he now enjoys.

---

### BENJAMIN F. WASHBURN.

The name of Washburn is well known and honored in Colona township where the family has been prominent in agricultural circles since early pioneer times, and Benjamin F. Washburn, of this review, has made a most creditable record that has at all times been in harmony with the upright and honorable methods which have ever characterized the business dealings of the representatives of the name. His birth occurred on his father's farm in this township, in the same locality where he now makes his home, on the 28th of February, 1853, his parents being Abisha and Isabella (Clapp) Washburn. An extended and complete history of the family will be found on another page of this volume under the name of George Washburn, giving full information concerning the active and helpful part which representatives of the name have taken in the transformation and development of the district since an early date in the pioneer history of the county.

Amid the scenes and environments of rural life Benjamin F. Washburn spent the period of his boyhood and youth, acquiring his education in the district schools of Colona township. His educational advantages, however, were somewhat limited, for as soon as he was old enough to handle a team his attendance at school was confined to a few weeks during the winter months, for from early spring planting until late autumn harvest he was busily engaged in the work of the fields, assisting in the operation of the home farm. He thus acquired a practical and comprehensive knowledge of the science of farming that later proved of great value to him in the conduct of his own business interests. He remained at home giving his father the benefit of his aid until he attained man's estate, when he took up agriculture on his own account, since which time he has continued to make it his life work. He now owns a highly cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty acres upon which he makes his home, the place being equipped with a fine modern residence, substantial barns and outbuildings and all of the conveniences and accessories that go to make up a model farm of the twentieth century. He also is the owner of an equally well improved tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Nebraska, which is the source of gratifying annual revenue. In connection with his general farming pursuits he devotes considerable time and attention to his stock-raising interests and both branches under his careful and wise management are proving most remunerative.

In November, 1873, Mr. Washburn was united in marriage to Miss Maria Williams, a daughter of William A. and Harriet (Anderson) Williams. The father is descended from Welsh ancestry while the mother is of Scotch descent. They came from Wisconsin to Henry county at a very early date, being numbered among the early pioneers of this district. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Washburn were born six children, namely: Jessie, the wife of George Montgomery, of Colona township; Mabel, who married Mike Sharp, also of this township; Arthur and Suella, the widow of Manville Jones, at home; Mary, who married Wesley Jones and resides in Colona township; and Sadie, who is still under the parental roof. In November, 1880, the wife and mother was called to her final rest, and on the 11th of September, 1895, Mr. Washburn was again united in marriage, his second union being with Miss Agnes Carson, a daughter of David and Jean Carson, of Western township. The Carson family are of Scotch origin, coming from Scotland to America in 1852, the home first being established in Yonkers, New York, where they resided for nine years, when the daughter Agnes was born. The family then came west to Henry county in 1861, locating in Western township, where Mr. Carson became a prosperous farmer and a very influential and prominent citizen. The family was especially interested in educational matters, three of the daughters having been at one time popular and progressive teachers in the schools of Henry county. Mrs. Washburn taught school for six years prior to her marriage, and was a very capable and successful instructor. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Carson passed away on the 4th of January, 1902, and is still survived by her husband, who makes his home in Western township.

Mr. Washburn's political views are in accord with the principles of the democratic party and he served the township as road commissioner for a number of years. He is now filling the office of township assessor and has for many years been a member of the district school board. He has ever been a public-spirited citizen, deeply interested in all matters involving the general welfare, and is a strong advocate of public reform and improvement along lines in keeping with the progressive spirit of the age. His career has ever been such as to warrant the trust of the business world, for he has ever conducted all transactions according to the strictest principles of honor and integrity, and he enjoys the unqualified respect and confidence of his friends and neighbors, who know him as an honorable and upright gentleman and a true and loyal citizen.

---

#### FRANCIS MARION HAY.

Although he has passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey Francis Marion Hay still retains active supervision of his agricultural interests. He owns a fine farm of three hundred and eighty acres on sections 1 and 12, Annawan township, on which he lives, and also a tract of one hundred and thirty-three acres on section 4, and his methods of cultivation are so thorough and his business is conducted with such good judgment that he is numbered among the more prosperous farmers of Henry county. Nor is his reputation confined by county lines,

but he is widely known through the state, not only for the excellence of his dairy products, but also for the exemplary character of his life. He was born in Saluda township, Jefferson county, Indiana, January 22, 1833, a son of Thomas and Sarah (Maiden) Hay. The former was born on a farm in the vicinity of Edinburgh, Scotland, October 26, 1800, and was a lad of eleven when his parents joined a company of about a hundred who emigrated to America. They landed at New York, whence they went to Philadelphia, thence to Pittsburg, where they secured a flat boat and floated down the river to Hanover, Indiana. There they disembarked and William Hay, the grandfather of F. M. Hay, secured a tract of land from the government, which remained his home during the rest of his life. He died at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Thomas Hay, the father of F. M. Hay, grew to manhood upon the homestead in Jefferson county, Indiana, and there was married to Miss Sarah Maiden. In 1854 he came to Annawan on a visit, and despite the fact that it was the year of the great snow storm he was so favorably impressed with the country that in 1855 he returned, bringing his family with him, and bought some land on section 13, Annawan township. Thereon he lived the rest of his life, save for two years he spent in the village of Annawan, and his active years were busily occupied with agricultural pursuits, wherefrom he derived a gratifying success.

Francis Marion Hay lived in the township of his birth until he reached maturity, obtaining such an education as the district schools of his locality afforded at that time. As a boy he learned the use of tools and before he became twenty had become skillful at carpentering, so that he was able to secure bridge work on the Jeffersonville and Indianapolis Railroad and which is now part of the Big Four. In 1854 he came by rail to Henry county, while his father drove a few horses overland, intending to sell them after he arrived, and here again engaged in carpentering. A couple of years later he turned his attention to farming, for he had traded some raw land he had entered from the government in Benton county, Iowa, for forty acres in Annawan township, Henry county. That tract was the nucleus about which later accretions were made until the home farm comprised two hundred and ten acres, for a large measure of success attended Mr. Hay's labors and as he saw opportunity he put his money in that safest of all investments, real estate. He engaged in general farming, but at one time he was extensively engaged in dairying, frequently milking fifty cows daily. He had only Jersey cattle in his herd, and the butter he made was justly celebrated for its quality, receiving the gold prize at the union dairy fair held at Milwaukee. Now this business is not carried on on as extensive a scale, although the excellence of the dairy products is still maintained.

On Thanksgiving day, November 26, 1868, in Annawan township, Mr. Hay was married to Miss Hannah A. Tower, a native of New York. Her parents, Samuel Nelson and Hannah (Lewis) Tower, left the east in 1852, and coming west located in McHenry county, Illinois, where Mr. Tower engaged in farming and taught music. Later he became superintendent of the Washingtonian Home, in Chicago, but in 1865 came to Henry county, where he again followed agricultural pursuits and taught music. His daughter, Mrs. Hay, inherited some of his talent along musical lines and enjoyed special training in the art.

Mr. and Mrs. Hay have three children. Mark, who was born September 28, 1869, after leaving the country schools, took a short course in Bryant & Stratton Business College, Chicago, and then studied architecture at the University of Illinois. For a time he was employed by the board of education of Chicago, but after the earthquake in San Francisco, California, believing that there were larger opportunities there, he removed to that city, where he is still engaged in his profession as architect. He has not married. Louis M., who was born January 16, 1872, received a good education, and is now the owner of eighty acres on section 1, this township, where he is carrying on farming. Cranston Roy was born August 16, 1874, and died, unmarried, December 13, 1907.

Mr. Hay was reared a democrat, but was converted to republicanism even before he was able to vote and when he cast his first ballot it was for John C. Fremont, who was that party's candidate in 1856. Now, however, he holds himself independent of party ties, for he takes a keen interest in political questions and after investigation gives his support to the cause he believes to be right. It was in conformance with his ideas of citizenship that he accepted the positions of road commissioner and school director, which he filled so acceptably, for while he does not seek office, he believes it the duty of capable men to give some of their time for the benefit of their fellow citizens. He has passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score and ten, and his life record is honorable and may well cause one to pause and consider and then emulate, for the success which the years have chronicled has been won through noble endeavor, not through taking advantage of the misfortunes of others. Indeed Mr. Hay says, and he may well be proud of the fact, that he has never been a party to any fight, nor has he ever witnessed one. Quietly and unobtrusively he has done his duty and the day's work, and the worldly prosperity which has been vouchsafed to him and the sincere esteem of his fellows, is merited in a high degree.

---

#### CHARLES M. WILLIAMS.

Charles M. Williams, a retired agriculturist residing in Galva, was born at Bentonville, Fayette county, Indiana, on the 6th of March, 1843, his parents being Lyman and Susan (Dickey) Williams, likewise natives of Fayette county, Indiana. The paternal grandfather, Charles Williams, whose birth occurred in New York, was of Welsh descent. He participated in the war of 1812 and followed both farming and carpentering during his active business career. The maternal grandfather of our subject was William Dickey, a native of Kentucky and a farmer by occupation. In early manhood he wedded Miss Jane Houston, by whom he had eight children, four sons and four daughters. Both he and his wife lived to attain a ripe old age.

Lyman Williams, the father of Charles M. Williams, followed the carpenter's trade in early manhood but after his marriage turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. In 1856 he removed to Stark county, Illinois, taking up his abode two miles northeast of La Fayette. The last few years of his life were spent in La Fayette, where he passed away in 1905, when eighty-six years of age.

He had survived his wife for almost three decades, her demise having occurred in 1876 when she was fifty-one years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Williams were devoted and consistent members of the Christian church. Their family numbered ten children, four sons and six daughters, seven of whom are still living, namely: Charles M., of this review; Lydia A., the wife of Michael N. Emery; John A.; Sarah E., the wife of Herbert Baker; William J.; Ella E.; and Annie B., the wife of Stephen White.

Charles M. Williams was a lad of about fourteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this state. He was reared on his father's farm and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, pursuing his education in the district schools and later in the public schools of Galva. In May, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry but was prevented from going to the front on account of sickness. In October, 1864, he joined Company G of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry and loyally fought for the interests of the Union until its supremacy had been established. After the close of hostilities he returned to Stark county and for a number of years was engaged in the operation of a rented farm. In 1871 he made his way to Kansas, purchasing two hundred and twenty acres of land in Miami county, that state, where he remained until February, 1876. He then returned to Illinois and took up his abode on a farm two and a half miles east of Galva, the property belonging to his father. Subsequently he bought forty acres adjoining and in 1901 purchased one of his father's farms of eighty acres, residing thereon until January, 1908. He then disposed of the property and came to Galva, where he purchased a beautiful and commodious residence and after living there a short time, he again moved just north of the city limits. Through his carefully directed and untiring labors as an agriculturist he accumulated the competence that now enables him to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

On the 15th of September, 1867, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Lucy L. Cundiff, whose birth occurred in Galena, Illinois, in 1846, her parents being Richard and Mary (Jackson) Cundiff, natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively. They were numbered among the early settlers of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. Richard Cundiff, who was a soldier in the Black Hawk war, passed away in the year 1853. His wife lived to be eighty-eight years of age. They had a family of eleven children, six of whom still survive, namely: Thomas; Sarah; Mary, the wife of Miles Bennett, of Savanna, Illinois; Mrs. Williams; Marcia, the wife of C. L. Canning; and Richard Archibald. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born seven children, the record of whom is as follows. Frank W., who has been a bookkeeper in Peoria for about eighteen years, wedded Miss Clara Belle Walkley, who died in June, 1907, leaving a daughter, Pearl Blanche Williams. Frank W. Williams is first lieutenant of Company G, Illinois National Guards, of which he has been a member for eleven years. Clarence B., likewise a resident of Peoria, married Miss Nellie Watson. Elmer L. passed away when three years of age. Susie B. is at home. Perry E., living in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, married Miss Lorena Wilson, by whom he has a daughter, Ruth Lorena. George Herbert died at the age of nine months. Daisy M. passed away when eight years of age.

Mr. Williams gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and has served as school director for many years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He belongs to Galva Post, G. A. R., and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful interest. They are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them.

---

### GEORGE WILLIAM FERGUSON.

The broad expanse of fields on section 11, Western township, which comprise the home place of George William Ferguson, constitute but a small part of the large landholdings which are a patent indication of the manner in which he has followed his vocation as a tiller of the soil. Industrious and hardworking to a high degree, frugal and a good manager, he has let slip few, if any opportunities that would contribute to his advancement along his chosen line of work.

He was born in Adams county, Illinois, June 18, 1847, a son of Robert C. and Nancy (Wilson) Ferguson. The father was born on a farm near Steubenville, Ohio, in 1816, his parents being Isaac and Elizabeth (Herron) Ferguson, who crossed the Atlantic and settled in Ohio. When Robert C. Ferguson reached young manhood he and a brother John came to Illinois, settling in Adams county, where he procured a tract of land and married. In 1850, becoming infected with the gold fever, he, with his older brothers, Henry and John, started overland to California. Another brother, Vincent, had gone there the year before, and his accounts of the opportunities had helped to fire the ambitions of the others, who, however, returned to their Illinois home in 1851, richer by little more than experience as a result of their western trip. On the homeward journey they went by water to Panama, which they crossed, and from there proceeded to Illinois. Vincent Ferguson, however, who had been the first to go to the gold country, remained several years after the departure of his brothers, but he too eventually came back to Illinois, where the last years of his life were spent. In 1863 Robert C. Ferguson, the father of our subject, located in Western township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, all in one farm, for which he paid at the rate of twelve dollars and a half an acre. He put up a frame house, eighteen by twenty-four feet, now incorporated in the home in which his son lives. The latter has also fallen heir to the farm which the older man secured here.

Four children were born to Robert C. Ferguson and his wife. James Theodore, who was born in 1844, received a fair common school education and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in Company E, Eighteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He had served about nine months when he was taken ill and died in the hospital at Pine Bluff, Arkansas. George W., the subject of this sketch, is the second of the family. Augusta died at the age of three. Harriet became the wife of Luman Hitchcock of Oconee, Nebraska, and they have five children. In his political views, the father was a republican, and during the years of his

activity held several of the township offices. He was a member of the Freewill Baptist church, to which he gave generous support.

As a boy George W. Ferguson attended the common schools, later becoming a pupil in a select school in his vicinity, but as his father was in poor health he early in life assumed some of the responsibilities of the management of the farm. After the latter's death he bought his personal property and divided the farm, which has remained his home continuously since. He has, however, in the course of years, as success accompanied his efforts, added extensively to it and purchased other tracts until he is now the owner of eight hundred and eighty-seven acres, divided into three farms. About 1894 he purchased a number of shares in the Farmers Bank of Orion, and became its first president, and later, when it was renamed and reorganized under the surveillance of the state, he was made one of its board of directors. About the same time he became connected with the Orion State Bank, of which he has been vice president and a director ever since its organization, for the sound financial position he occupies in the community and the business acumen, integrity and uprightness which have marked his life, make him a man in whom the people would naturally place confidence.

In Osco township, January 21, 1872, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ferguson and Miss Inez E. Hitchcock, a daughter of Walker Lyon and Eliza J. (Harris) Hitchcock. She was born in Peoria county, Illinois, February 14, 1852, and came to Henry county with her parents in 1865. Six children have been born of this union: Grace F. became the wife of Mahlon Lloyd Love and they have three children—Mahlon Lloyd, Jr., who is now eleven years of age, Richard Raeburn and William Seward. Mr. Love died August 13, 1902, and his widow lives upon the Lloyd homestead in this township. Roy, the second child, receives extended mention in another part of this work. Helen F. married Bert E. McLaughlin, an attorney at Galesburg. Harry E. is also accorded space in another part of this volume. Harriet C. was graduated from the high school in Galesburg with the class of 1904. Alice completed the high school course in 1906 and is now a sophomore in Knox College.

Mr. Ferguson cast his first presidential ballot for Grant in 1868, and has since given his unqualified support to the candidates of the republican party. He has, however, taken but small part in the local government, although he served as highway commissioner for six years. Yet despite the fact that he has steadily refused public office, the record of his life is one which is of the highest type of efficient citizenship.

---

#### IRA SHERMAN SELLON.

Ira Sherman Sellon, owning and operating a well improved and highly productive farm of one hundred and twenty-two acres on section 21, Galva township, was born in Round Grove, Henry county, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1867, his parents being Henry and Mary (Stoddard) Sellon. The father's birth occurred in the vicinity of London, England, while the mother was a native of Con-



MR. AND MRS. IRA S. SELLOX



necticut. Nothing is known of the paternal grandfather save that he was a prominent minister in London. Israel Stoddard, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Connecticut and followed farming as a life work. He came west when quite well advanced in years and peddled clocks, making his home in Fraker's Grove, Stark county, Illinois, where he passed away when more than eighty years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Irene Frisby, had attained the age of ninety-six years at the time of her demise. They reared a family of five children, namely: Marcus, Phoebe, Mary, James and Esther.

Henry Sellon, the father of Ira S. Sellon, was a sailor for a number of years. After taking up his abode in the United States he first followed farming at Fraker's Grove near La Fayette, Stark county, Illinois, and in 1844 came to Round Grove in Burns township, Henry county. There he was actively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits for a quarter of a century, owning a fine farm of three hundred and forty acres. In 1869 he disposed of the property and spent the remainder of his life in Galva, his demise there occurring in 1874 when he was about fifty-five years of age. He was well known and highly esteemed throughout the county as one of its worthy and respected pioneer settlers and had an extensive circle of friends within its borders. He was twice married, his first wife being Phoebe Stoddard, by whom he had one child, Lucy M., now the widow of John Johnston, of Kewanee. After the death of his first wife he married her sister, Mary I. Stoddard, who became the mother of our subject. She was called to her final rest on the 1st of June, 1902, being at that time seventy-two years of age. Unto them were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows: Lottie, the wife of J. H. Decker, of Callaway, Nebraska; Alice, the wife of J. D. Nelson, of Orr, North Dakota; Edward and Charles, both of whom are deceased; Benjamin, who died when but a small child; Lydia, deceased, who was the first wife of J. D. Nelson; Phoebe, the deceased wife of Thomas Johnson; and Ira Sherman, of this review.

The last named was reared in this county and was two years of age when brought by his parents to Galva, where he subsequently pursued his education in the public schools. After putting aside his text-books he went to work on a farm, receiving his board and clothes in remuneration for his services. He was but seven years of age when he lost his father, and after he had worked as a farm hand for a time his mother sold their home in Galva and rented a tract of eighty acres in Galva township, about two and a half miles north of the town. He operated this farm for a year and then he and his mother and grandmother all took up their abode on a farm of eighty-five acres one mile north of Galva, which had been purchased by a niece of our subject. When the niece died she left a will bequeathing the proceeds of this farm to Mr. Sellon's mother and when the latter passed away the property came into possession of our subject. He has since extended the boundaries of the place by the purchase of thirty-seven acres and has built thereon a commodious and attractive residence, as well as all necessary outbuildings. The property is lacking in none of the equipments and improvements of a model farm of the twentieth century and, with the exception of a period of two years spent in Galva, Mr. Sellon has lived on the place continuously since 1885. He follows progressive and modern methods in the con-

duct of his agricultural interests and is widely recognized as one of the substantial, enterprising and representative citizens of the community.

On the 12th of September, 1892, Mr. Sellon was united in marriage to Miss Mattie E. Frazier, a native of Cornwall township, Henry county, Illinois, and a daughter of Robinson and Nancy (Woods) Frazier, both of whom were born in Ohio. They were numbered among the early settlers of this county and reared a family of six children, namely: Rose; John; Winifred, the wife of M. R. Uhl; Frank; Mrs. Sellon; and Bert. Mrs. Sellon's paternal grandparents were John and Mary (Cassidy) Frazier, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively, while her maternal grandparents were Hugh and Katherine (De Bell) Woods. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sellon have been born four children: Raymond F., Ira B., Rolland H. and Lois M.

Politically Mr. Sellon is a stanch republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which his wife is also identified. Having spent their entire lives in this county, they are widely and favorably known here and the circle of their friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

---

#### HERMAN SEEFELD.

A well developed and highly improved farm on sections 22 and 23, Burns township, and comprising one hundred and sixty acres, is the property of Herman Seefeld, who has spent the greater part of his life in Henry county. He was, however, born in Potsdam, Germany, September 17, 1858. His parents, Louis and Wilhelmina (Graaf) Seefeld, were likewise natives of that country and the year 1867 witnessed the arrival of the family in the new world. The father made his way to Henry county and purchasing land on section 11, Burns township, there made a home for himself and family. His farm contained one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated from that time until his death in 1905, when he was seventy-six years of age. The mother, however, still survives, and is now living in Kewanee, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

Herman Seefeld was a little lad of nine years when he was brought to America, and his education, which was begun in the schools of his native country, was continued in the district schools of Burns township. During the periods of vacation he assisted his father in the work of the home farm and after putting aside his text-books gave his entire time to the work of the fields. He remained on the home farm until the time of his marriage, when he was given forty acres of land by his father. He then purchased forty acres adjoining, located on section 16, Burns township, and this land he operated for nine years. He erected good buildings on the place and made other improvements, which increased its value. Having the opportunity of disposing of that farm to good advantage, he then sold it and invested his money in his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated on sections 22 and 23, Burns township. He erected a new residence, built a barn and other outbuildings, and fences, put up a windmill, tiled the land and altogether has made it a valuable property. The land is all under cultivation and owing to

the richness of the soil and the proper drainage which is afforded by tiling, Mr. Seefeld each year gathers good crops. He raises Poland China hogs to considerable extent and raises horses and cattle for his own use, keeping only the thoroughbred shorthorn and Hereford cattle. Mr. Seefeld also raises considerable fruit, having an orchard that contains every variety of fruit with the exception of apricots. He likewise owns a house in Kewanee and owns stock in the Henry County Telephone Company.

Mr. Seefeld has been married twice. He was first married February 5, 1882, near Kewanee, to Miss Louisa Wetzig, of German descent and a native of Kewanee township. This union was blessed with two daughters: Emma, the wife of William Statz, a resident of Kewanee township; and Lorine, the wife of Ed Kuster, of Burns township. For his second wife Mr. Seefeld chose Louisa Schulz, their marriage being celebrated on the 17th of May, 1891. She is a daughter of Carl and Wilhelmina (Frank) Schulz, natives of Germany, whence they located in Henry county in 1890, having come here several years after the arrival of their daughter in the new world. They established their home in Wethersfield township and there both passed away, the mother being called to her final rest in 1892, when she was sixty-seven years of age, while the father died two years later, in 1894, at the age of seventy-two. Of the second marriage of Mr. Seefeld there are two children, a daughter and son: Helene W., a young lady of eighteen years and still at home; and Edward H., thirteen years old, attending school.

Mr. Seefeld is a republican where national issues are involved but at local elections he casts an independent ballot. Although he takes a deep interest in public affairs he is not an office seeker, preferring to devote his time to his individual interests. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church of Kewanee. Mr. Seefeld is a successful man. Starting out in life in possession of forty acres of land, the gift of his father, he has added to this and has sold and bought to advantage, thus improving each opportunity for making a profit, until today he is the owner of as fine a farm of one hundred and sixty acres as can be found in Henry county and this gives him place among the substantial citizens of this section of the state.

---

### PROFESSOR FRED U. WHITE.

Fred U. White, who has acted as superintendent of the Galva public schools for the past two decades, was born in Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, on the 10th of June, 1858, his parents being Benjamin and Margaret (Bacon) White, natives of Connecticut and New York, respectively. His paternal grandparents were Samuel and Cynthia (Trowbridge) White, both of whom were of Puritan descent, the former representing one of the earliest families of Massachusetts and the latter tracing her ancestry back to Devonshire, England, in the time of Edward the First. The New England Trowbridges, of whom there have been over thirty-six hundred, descended from Thomas Trowbridge, who settled at Dorchester, Massachusetts, probably in 1634. Samuel White, whose birth occurred in Connecticut, carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout his

business career and passed away at Pomfret, Connecticut, when well advanced in years. His wife there died in middle life. Their children were seven in number, as follows: William T.; Susan E., the deceased wife of Remuel Pearson; George, Lewis, Elizabeth J., Benjamin and Sarah F., all of whom have passed away. Subsequent to the death of his first wife Samuel White was again married, his second union being with Miss Phoebe Baker, by whom he had two children, Jared B. and Charles H.

Benjamin White, the father of Mr. White, was born at Pomfret, Connecticut, December 14, 1825. Puritan discipline prevailed in Samuel White's household, giving its tinge of rigid self-accountability to all the children. Benjamin White's schooling was very limited but he was fond of reading and quick in observation with inquiring and thoughtful mind. At the age of twenty-one he left home and apprenticed himself to a mason and builder of Danielson, Connecticut. After serving his apprenticeship, he followed his trade for several years at Waterbury, Connecticut, where he married Margaret Bacon, September 17, 1854. To them were born four sons: Charles, who died in infancy; Frank Oscar, who became a resident of New Orleans and died October 3, 1909; Fred U., whose name initiates this review and who is a twin brother of Frank O.; and William T., a resident of New Orleans. In April, 1856, the family removed to Geneseo, Illinois, where Benjamin White continued the business of a mason and contractor until the fall of 1889, when he superintended for the board of education, of which he was then a member, the construction of the present high school building. On the 3d of January, 1863, his wife died after a protracted illness, leaving him with three little boys. On the 1st of January, 1868, he married Miss Mary Jane Messenger and unto them were born two daughters, Fannie M. and Flora, both of Geneseo. In the spring of 1890 Benjamin White suffered a severe attack of the grippé which put an end to his active work. From that time on his health steadily failed until his death, which occurred on the 24th of May, 1909, when he had attained the venerable age of eighty-four years. Born of New England stock, he was always positive and forceful. The new town to which he came at the age of thirty gave the opportunity for work which he desired. The following partial list of buildings put up by Mr. White speaks for itself: The Collegiate Institute, built originally for commercial purposes; the old Geneseo House—(1864); the Anderson Building, Main street; the four buildings north of the Farmers National Bank; the Schuck and Hippler buildings; the Blackiston block; the Wright block, except the Wright and Cann buildings; the George Singleman building; the addition to O'Bryan's and Rastede's stores; Freeman's Hall; the Clause and Stamm building; the Berner building; the Hosford building; the Geneseo House—(1877); the Engdahl building; the Taylor building; the Methodist church; Zion church; the Hammond hospital; the Swedish Lutheran church; and the first brick schoolhouse at Cambridge. In addition to his building operations in Geneseo Mr. White did much work in the surrounding country and towns and in Chicago after the fire. He was much interested in educational matters and was an attendant and supporter of the Unitarian church of Geneseo from its establishment.

Mr. Fred U. White was reared in the place of his nativity and obtained his preliminary education in the public schools, being graduated from the Geneseo

high school in 1875. During the following three years he was engaged in teaching and subsequently entered the University of Illinois, while later he spent one term in the School of Languages at Burlington, Vermont. Afterward he again took up the profession of teaching as an instructor in the public schools and was thus engaged until 1882, when he took up his abode in Galva. Here he taught in the grammar room for two years and then became principal of the high school, continuing in that position for three years. During the following two years he acted as principal of the Cambridge schools and in 1889 entered upon the duties of his present position as superintendent of the schools of Galva. Mr. White also was teacher of history at the Illinois State Normal University during the summer terms of 1907 and 1909. The progress made by the schools has been of a substantial and practical character, bringing results that are manifest in the efficiency of those who leave the schools to enter upon the active work of life.

On the 5th of August, 1891, Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Eliza R. Curtiss, a native of Galva and a daughter of Flavius J. and Alvena (Minor) Curtiss, both of whom were born in New York. Her paternal grandparents were Amasa Sawyer and Rebecca (Gilson) Curtiss, the former a Baptist minister. When Flavius J. Curtiss was only a year old the family removed to Hastings, New York, where he lived until he was thirteen years of age. He then worked at South Butler for two years at a salary of five dollars per month. He next went to work for J. W. Arnold, of Fulton, New York, a carpenter, with whom he remained for three years during which time he learned the trade. His first important work was building the Presbyterian church in conjunction with a Mr. Sage, at Watertown, New York. He afterward worked for one year at his trade in Ogdensburg, New York, and then removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended business college. The following year he became bookkeeper for a milling firm at Birmingham, Ohio. At the age of twenty-five he acted as brakeman and soon afterward as freight conductor from La Porte, Indiana, to Toledo, Ohio. After two years' experience as clerk in dry-goods and grocery lines Mr. Curtiss went west to Rock Island, Illinois, and engaged as salesman for Hoyt & Avery, of Milan. On January 30, 1854, he married Alvena Eliza Minor and in the following March they removed to Galva, where he has since resided. To them were born eight children: Byron Fay and Cyrus Yale, who died in infancy; Ella Josephine; Eliza Rebecca, now Mrs. F. U. White; Frankie Adalade, now Mrs. Lee G. Kratz; Byron Minor; Lora Bell, who married J. W. Wood, now deceased; and Leon Homer, who died July 10, 1900, at the age of twenty-seven years. At Galva Mr. Curtiss engaged in the furniture and undertaking business which he continued until 1882, passing through the ordeal of being burned out, an experience common to many of the early business men of Galva. He was Galva's first village clerk, which office he filled continuously with the exception of one year for the period of sixteen years. His faithfulness and strict integrity may be known from the fact that it was during the Civil war period and the issue of the American Railway bonds, when the office was one of especial responsibility. His wife passed away in 1895 at the age of sixty-four years and nine months. Mr. Curtiss maintains his interest in public affairs, though advanced years now prevent active participation therein. He still resides in Galva and has

an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community in which he has now lived for more than half a century.

In his political views Mr. White is a staunch republican, being convinced that the principles of that party are most conducive to good government. He is now serving as president of the Galva library board and is also the chief executive officer of the Henry County Historical Association.

---

### ERIC WESTERLUND.

Eric Westerlund is now living retired at his country home in Osco township, Henry county, Illinois, where for many years he was closely identified with agricultural pursuits, still owning two hundred acres situated on sections 33 and 28, and ninety acres in Andover township. As the name indicates he is a native of Sweden, having been born June 16, 1836, in Hassala, near Berge Byb Nora, Helsingland, a son of Eric A. and Elizabeth Westerlund, who with six of their children started for America about 1850. The mother and the youngest child, who was three years old, never reached their destination, having died en route and were buried at sea. On the same vessel a brother of our subject's father brought his wife and three children to the new world. They were eleven weeks and three days crossing the Atlantic and landed in New York. Although they had intended to make their home in Pennsylvania, through the influence of a Swedish minister who had a brother in Knox county, Illinois, they were persuaded to continue their journey westward. They traveled as far as Andover township, Henry county, where their possessions were unloaded, for the father's financial resources were exhausted and he was compelled to seek immediate employment, which he secured by renting a farm. In the family were the following children. Andrew, the eldest son, remained in Sweden and his descendants are now living in that country. Margaret married William Stolt, by whom she has seven children, their home being at Odebolt, Iowa. Jonas resides in Lynn township, Henry county, Illinois, and has four children. Eric is the next in order of birth. Peter lives in Orion, Illinois. Hans became a soldier of the Civil war, during which time his health became impaired and he died near Woodhull, leaving three children. The father married a second time and before his death had become the owner of eighty acres. He passed away about 1867 or 1868 and his remains were interred in Andover cemetery.

Eric Westerlund of this review, having been born and reared on his father's farm in Sweden, received the advantages of a common school education in his native land, continuing his studies there until he was fourteen years of age, at which time he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States. Later, however, he had the privilege of attending school in Henry county for two winter terms. Having been reared to the occupation of farming, he worked out for one year, after which his services were required on the home farm. Thus he remained in his father's employ, his persevering efforts proving effectual in the further cultivation and development of the property, until he became of age.

On the 7th of February, 1858, occurred the marriage of Mr. Westerlund and Miss Christine Anderson, of Andover township, a daughter of Jonas and Christine (Anderson) Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Mrs. Westerlund was born on a farm near Hille Socken, Obygeby, Sweden, January 30, 1843, and when she was about six years of age came with her father and mother to the United States, they having been induced to take up their abode in Andover township, this county, on their arrival in New York. She was the third in a family that numbered five children. Andrew, her eldest brother, was taken ill with cholera and was left in a hospital in Chicago, where he died. In the spring of 1850 Mr. Anderson journeyed overland to California, where he met with fair success, but in the following year he returned by the ocean route to Illinois, having decided in favor of the Prairie state.

In 1863 Mr. Westerlund bought eighty acres of his present farm, paying ten dollars an acre for land that is now worth two hundred. Unto him and his wife have been born six children, namely: Sarah E., the wife of A. E. Anderson, of Andover township, Henry county, by whom she has thirteen children; Emma C., who became the wife of Charles Peterson and died leaving six children; Sophia Josephine, who wedded Ferdinand Lonner, living near Shields, Kansas, their family now numbering eight children; John O., residing at Elliott, Iowa, who is married and has five children; Annie M., now Mrs. Haggland, who resides at Essex, Iowa, and in whose family are five children; and Julius N., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Westerlund has been a republican in politics since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He was elected on the republican ticket and served as road commissioner for a number of years. However, he is not a politician in the sense of office seeking, having refused to run for supervisor on the democratic ticket, though urged to do so by his fellow citizens. A school director for many years, his cooperation and substantial aid can always be counted upon to further any movement for the benefit of public school instruction and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. Aside from his farms in this county, his landed interests also include property in North Dakota and Colorado, and he is numbered among the prominent and successful agriculturists, whose labors have not only contributed to their individual prosperity but have also been active factors in the development of the state. Mr. Westerlund is accounted one of the esteemed and honored pioneer settlers of Henry county. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

---

#### GUY ELMER SMITH.

One of the best known firms of Henry county engaged in the breeding of high grade stock is that of Henninger Brothers & Smith, and of it Guy Elmer Smith, of Phenix township, is the junior member. He is a native of that township, born January 24, 1888, and like his partners is still a young man but he brings to the business and its details an enthusiasm that helps to make the results successful.

He is a son of Allen E. and Tillie (Henninger) Smith. His father was born near Green river in Henry county, April 21, 1861, being a son of Darius and Margaret (Englehof) Smith. Darius Smith was a soldier during the Civil war and during his service contracted rheumatism, from which he died when only thirty-five years of age. Allen E. Smith died when his son, our subject, was only sixteen years of age, leaving a widow and this one child.

Guy Elmer Smith attended the common schools of his district, but about a year after his father's death he began living on section 30, Phenix township, with his maternal grandfather. His mother is still living. He was taken into partnership with his uncles, and the three young men have built up a good business. Mr. Smith takes charge of the exhibits at the various states fairs. In 1908 he took forty head of stock to the South Dakota state fair and had full charge of them.

In politics he is a republican, but like his partner, C. Arthur Henninger, does not take any active part in public affairs, for business makes too heavy claims upon his time and attention. All three young men are sturdy and reliable, and they have not only profited themselves by their operations, but they have taught stockmen what can be accomplished along the lines they are pursuing.

---

#### JAMES SADLER.

James Sadler, whose demise occurred on the 10th of January, 1907, was for many years a prominent representative of the farming and stock-raising interests of Henry county and at his death left an estate comprising three hundred and sixty acres of valuable and productive land on section 18, Wethersfield township. He was born in Yorkshire county, England, on the 14th of April, 1830, his parents being William and Hannah Sadler, who came to this county in 1853 and remained residents of Wethersfield township until called to their final rest. They reared a family of fourteen children, of whom four sons and two daughters yet survive.

James Sadler, who was the seventh in order of birth in his father's family, obtained his education in the schools of his native land. When nineteen years of age he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and, coming direct to Henry county, Illinois, here worked as a farm hand for three years. Subsequently he devoted his attention to the operation of rented land for a few years or until he came into possession of a farm of his own by purchasing a tract of one hundred acres on section 18, Wethersfield township. As time passed and his financial resources increased, owing to his well directed energy and capable management, he gradually extended the boundaries of the place by additional purchase until at his death his landed holdings embraced three hundred and sixty acres, which estate is still intact. On this property he erected a handsome residence, and in addition to cultivating the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate he was also engaged in the raising of stock on an extensive scale. He was a large breeder of thoroughbred horses and cattle and made extensive shipments, this branch of his business proving a gratifying source of income to him. Alert, enterprising and energetic, he carried forward to successful completion what-



JAMES SADLER



ever he undertook and gained an enviable reputation among the leading and respected citizens of the community. He was financially interested in the Kewanee Street Railway Company.

On the 13th of November, 1861, in Jefferson county, New York, Mr. Sadler was joined in wedlock to Miss Margaret E. Cassidy, whose birth occurred on board ship enroute from Galway, Ireland, to the United States. Her parents, Michael and Susan Cassidy, took up their abode at Alexandria Bay, Jefferson county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Sadler became the parents of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, as follows: Hattie L., the wife of Isaac Morgan, of Kewanee; Myron E., who is engaged in the bottling business at Peoria; Arthur C., an electrician residing in Earlville, Illinois; Anna I., the wife of Freeman May, of Chicago; George E., a real-estate agent of Peoria; Walter T., who is superintendent for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway Company at Galesburg, Illinois; Emory C., who passed away on the 13th of May, 1905; Mary E., who is the wife of Fred Christman and makes her home in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Nellie J., the wife of Walter B. Crawford, of Galva, Illinois; William J., a fireman on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway, who lives in Aurora; Eva, the wife of G. A. Sassadeck, of Chicago; and Florence M., at home.

In his political views Mr. Sadler was a stanch republican and, being very fond of reading, always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He served as a school director for several terms and also acted in the capacity of road commissioner, discharging his official duties in a prompt and capable manner. In religious faith he was an Episcopalian. His loss was deeply and sincerely mourned by an extensive circle of friends and came as a great blow to his immediate family, for he had ever been a most devoted and loving husband and father. Since his demise Mrs. Sadler has leased the old home farm but still resides on the place with her youngest daughter, Florence. She is well known and highly esteemed throughout the community, her many good traits of heart and mind having won her the regard and friendship of those with whom she has come in contact.

---

#### REV. DONAT LOWERY CROWE.

Few members of a community have a larger opportunity of exercising a wider influence for good than have those ordained ministers of the church whose lives are devoted unselfishly to the alleviation of the sorrows of others, with physical means or through the solace of the divine word. Among those of Kewanee, whose beneficent work has spread to the representatives of many nationalities here and whose energies have been instrumental in promoting some of the institutions which make for a kindlier care and feeling of man for man is Rev. Donat Lowery Crowe, the pastor of the Visitation parish. He was born in West Troy, New York, June 2, 1862, a son of Donat and Ellen (Burns) Crowe. The father was a native of County Clare, Ireland, and was a civil and topographical engineer by profession, holding the position of superintendent of the Watervliet Arsenal, in Albany county, New York, at the time of the birth of his son, the subject of

this sketch. His wife was a daughter of William and Ellen (Riordan) Burns, originally from County Cork, Ireland, but highly regarded among the old and wealthy settlers of Oswego county, New York. There Mrs. Crowe's birth occurred April 14, 1832. Among the several children born to her five have devoted themselves to the religious life. Of the sons, besides Father Crowe, Very Rev. Dean J. W. Crowe, M. A., is in Jacksonville, Illinois; and Rev. J. B. Crowe is associated with St. Stephan's, Chicago. One daughter, Mary, is known as Sister Camilla, of the Order of St. Joseph and resides in St. Louis. The other, Alice, was called Sister Alice Theresa, as a member of the Carmelite order. She died in St. Louis, Missouri, July 16, 1905.

Father Crowe received his early education in the public schools of Oswego, New York, after which he entered upon the long and thorough training that prepared him for the priesthood: first at De La Salle Institute, at Toronto, Canada, then St. Joseph College, Teutopolis, Illinois, from which he went to St. Meinrad's College, Indiana, and finally to Grand Seminary, at Montreal, Canada, at which he was ordained a priest of the Catholic church, May 30, 1885. He was assigned to the diocese of Peoria, of which Bishop Spalding was then in charge, reaching his post of duty, July 16, 1885. He was then sent temporarily to Brimfield, Illinois, where he remained six weeks, after which he was appointed assistant priest to the church of the Immaculate Conception at Streator, Illinois. After having spent eighteen months there he was transferred to Chatsworth, Illinois, and in 1888 was appointed pastor of Piper City and Cullom. At both of those places his was the arduous and difficult task of gathering his congregations together and building churches. But in the two years or so that he had charge of those parishes he accomplished more than that, for he erected a parochial residence at Piper City, and started his parishioners well along upon an independent life. On the 16th of July, 1890, Father Crowe was made pastor of Utica, Illinois, where he remained seven years, in that period building a parochial school and greatly improving the church property. It was on the 16th of September, 1897, that he came to Kewanee, which has since been his charge.

At his advent the church of the Visitation was heavily laden with debt. This he has been able to pay, was instrumental in building St. Francis' Hospital and has maintained a parochial school under the charge of the Dominican sisters, with now an enrollment of four hundred pupils. This undertaking is one of which he may well feel a pardonable pride, for it has attained to a standard of scholarship comparing favorably with that of the public schools, affording the children who attend it thorough instruction in the rudimentary English branches and also training in the fundamental truths of their religion. Partly through donation and partly through wise purchase, Father Crowe has added considerably to the church property, thus making the congregation one of the financially stable bodies of the city. His endeavors, however, have not been confined to this English speaking community, for he it was who suggested the wisdom of establishing new parishes for the Belgians and the Poles, and he has been instrumental in procuring the property for the erection of a Catholic church for the benefit of the Lithuanians. Assistants have of course aided him in his work, Rev. M. S. Gildea holding that position at present, and Revs. Pooster, Egan, Fremcken, Heideman, Lyons and Conrads having been his aids in previous years.

Father Crowe is an accomplished gentleman as well as a noble and efficient pastor, for he speaks the French and German languages as fluently as he does the English, while he is a fine Greek and Latin scholar. Like a true follower in the footsteps of his Master he is devoted to the poor and laboring classes, although he is fitted for and endeavors to minister to all. Essentially a churchman, he works without ceasing to spread the faith and practice of the Catholic church in Kewanee, and not alone his parishoners but the citizens at large have felt his beneficent influence and been the better for it.

---

### WILLIAM M. STEWART.

The name of Stewart is well known in connection with the financial interests of Geneseo and he, of whom we write, is a worthy representative of banking, occupying the position of cashier in the Farmers National. He is one of the native sons of Geneseo, born April 25, 1872. His father was John P. Stewart, for many years one of the most prominent and representative citizens of Henry county. He was born in Rensselaer county, near Albany, New York, November 3, 1835, and he remained a resident of the Empire state until 1856, when, at the age of twenty-one years, he sought the opportunities, freedom and appreciation of the new and growing west, becoming a resident of Geneseo. For several years he was closely and helpfully associated with the educational interests of the county as a teacher in the public schools. He afterward became bookkeeper in the First National Bank when it was located on Main street and when the Farmers National Bank was organized in 1876 he was chosen its first cashier and filled that position of responsibility until his death. He became recognized as one of the most prominent representatives of financial interests in the county, was thoroughly conversant with the banking business in every detail and his uniform courtesy to the patrons of the institution made him one of the most popular cashiers of this part of the state. The only interruption to his business career came through his military service as a Union soldier in the Civil war. He belonged to Company B, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, with which he served from the fall of 1861 until February, 1863, when he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability. He had held the rank of corporal and was most loyal in his allegiance to the cause which he espoused. He was widely recognized as a man of superior culture and refinement, being especially talented in music and taking an active part in promoting the musical organizations in Geneseo for a number of years. He was also prominent as one of the leading vocalists of the city and was a valued member of the Congregational choir for a long period. In other ways he was also accounted one of the most prominent citizens of Geneseo, where for forty years he was closely identified with the commercial and material affairs of the city. He was a man of great strength of character and nobility of purpose and his career was one of the strictest honor and integrity. His example constituted an inspiration for those about him and in his death Geneseo lost one of its most highly respected and honored citizens. In various positions of public trust he proved his loyalty to the community, serving as a member of the school

board, also as township and city treasurer for a number of years. He died December 8, 1906, lacking but a month of being seventy-one years of age. Mrs. Stewart still survives and is well known in the social circles of the city. She attends the Congregational church and like her husband shares in the high regard of all who know her. By her marriage she became the mother of three children, the daughter being Anna Louise, the wife of J. A. Bradley, while the younger son is John P. Stewart, Jr. The father of Mrs. Stewart, Steward Morton, a pioneer merchant, lived for many years in Geneseo. He married Miss Alvira Pomeroy and they became the parents of two daughters and a son, who are still living—Charles M., William A. and Helen L.

In taking up the personal history of William M. Stewart we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Geneseo, where his youthful days were passed and his early education was acquired. After attending high school he pursued a business course in the Northwestern Normal and later entered the Farmers National Bank as assistant bookkeeper. There his ability and close application won him recognition in successive promotions and at his father's death he became his successor in the office of cashier, in which he has since continued. His understanding of modern banking methods and his diligence and progressive spirit constitute him a valued factor in the successful control and promotion of this enterprise.

On the 16th of October, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stewart and Miss Florence Van Valkenburg, a native of Ohio. Mr. Stewart belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., which was named in honor of his great-uncle, Roderick Stewart. He likewise belongs to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T. and Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport, Iowa. He is in thorough sympathy with the teachings and purposes of the craft, which is based upon mutual helpfulness and recognizes the useful brotherhood of mankind. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party but, while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he does not seek office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his constantly increasing business cares, which are of a most onerous and important nature.

---

### SAMUEL E. ROBB.

The dealer in real estate is a public benefactor for through him are the greater portion of improvements inaugurated and because of his efforts new capital is attracted to the community in which he is interested. Perhaps no one man has done more to advance the material interests of Kewanee and Wethersfield than Samuel E. Robb, now of Kewanee, which has been his home since 1899. His birth occurred five miles south of the city, February 1, 1859, and he is a son of Joseph and Martha (McLaughlin) Robb. His father was born in Ireland in 1825 and came to America when but eleven years old, landing in New York city, which continued his home until he was twenty-one. At that time he came west to Henry county, Illinois, and operated a sawmill for some time, but later took up govern-

ment land and farmed it until his demise at the age of seventy-two years, April 4, 1897, in Knox county, to which he had retired. His widow still lives in that county.

Samuel E. Robb was educated in the public schools of Kewanee township and the Wethersfield high school and engaged in farming until 1899 with the exception of two years, when he was engaged in a butchering business in Kewanee. Upon locating permanently here, he engaged in the insurance business for a year and then embarked in the real-estate business. Almost immediately he began to see the possibilities of a street railroad and later promoted the line running from Kewanee and Galva. He wrote the first article that appeared in a financial paper to attract capital and later was very active in developing the street-car system of Kewanee and the interurban service. Later he was made vice president of the company and held the office for three years, when the line was sold. For a long time he was the only Kewanee man officially connected with the Kewanee & Galesburg Railway Company. The first dirt for the line was dug August 23, 1903. It is now a paying line and will form the basis of an interurban system with Kewanee as headquarters. While his business interests are in Kewanee, Mr. Robb's home is at Wethersfield and he was one of the board of trustees and worked hard for the village system for the place.

On September 20, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr Robb and Carrie Anderson, of Kewanee, a daughter of the late Robert Anderson and his wife Margaret. Her father was proprietor of a large flourmill, but died in 1874. His widow survives, making her home in Kewanee. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Robb, namely: Mabel, who married Charles Hill, of Kewanee, assistant manager of the pipe department of the National Tube Company; Lalla, who married John T. Ellis, a son of Captain John Ellis; Edward E.; and Clair J.

Mr. Robb is a member of the Congregational church. He is a keen, shrewd business man, who possesses remarkable foresight and more than the average executive ability. Public-spirited, he has always had the interests of Henry county at heart and is proud of his locality and very confident as to its future.

---

#### GEORGE D. GERMAN.

George D. German, the owner of a valuable and well improved farm of four hundred acres on sections 5 and 8, Burns township, in the operation of which he is actively engaged, is also serving in the capacity of township supervisor at the present time. He was born in Peoria county, Illinois, on the 25th of April, 1863, his parents being George S. and Sarah Ella (Carl) German, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this work. He was still but a child when brought to this county by his father and mother and obtained his early education in the district schools of Burns township, while later he spent a year in Knox College. After putting aside his text-books he worked on his father's farm for a period of three years and then purchased a tract of eighty acres on section 32, Cornwall township, devoting his time and energies to its further cultivation and improvement for ten years. At the end of that time, owing to his father's retirement, he

took charge of the old homestead farm of four hundred acres on sections 5 and 8, Burns township, and subsequently purchased the property. It has since remained in his possession, and he has placed many substantial improvements thereon, remodeling and adding to the house and barn and also erecting a new barn and corn crib on his land just across the road. His home is one of the most attractive in Burns township, and he has recently set out an orchard of about sixty trees, including the various fruits grown in this part of the country. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he raises a few shorthorn cattle and in the past has raised many hogs, both Poland China and Jersey Red. In the spring of 1909 he bought some Berkshire hogs and now has a number of thoroughbreds. He likewise raises a few colts each year and in both his farming and live-stock interests has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of success. He is a stockholder in the Kewanee National Bank and the Henry County Telephone Company and is numbered among the enterprising and respected citizens of the community.

On the 14th of February, 1886, in Bureau county, Mr. German was joined in wedlock to Miss Ella M. Bunn, a daughter of Denton and Nancy (Fritz) Bunn, who were born in Pennsylvania and made their way to this state in an early day. They remained residents of Bureau county until about 1900, since which time they have made their home in Kewanee. Unto Mr. and Mrs. German have been born six children, namely: S. Ethel, whose birth occurred December 24, 1886, and who is now the wife of Asa M. Corwin, a farmer of Burns township; N. Edna, born July 24, 1888, who gave her hand in marriage to W. B. Warner, likewise an agriculturist of Burns township; Floyd D., whose natal day was December 15, 1890; Leslie, whose birth occurred September 29, 1892; Eva M., who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 29th of November, 1897; and George D., who was born February 12, 1903.

In his political views Mr. German is an unfaltering republican and an active worker in the local ranks of the party. He is now capably discharging the duties devolving upon him in the office of township supervisor and in the past has served as school director, while for one year he acted as township assessor. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Burns Congregational church, in the work of which he is deeply and helpfully interested. He has an extensive circle of friends throughout the county, in which he has resided since early boyhood, and in the various relations of life in which he has been found has shown himself fully worthy the confidence and trust which are uniformly given him.

---

### ROBERT PYLE.

Robert Pyle, whose success as a farmer has placed him in the front rank of Henry county farmers, has proven to his own satisfaction the value of intelligent effort along agricultural lines. He was born in Knox county, Illinois, October 8, 1857, and is a son of Richard and Sarah (Collinwood) Pyle. The father, who was a coal miner and operator, came to Henry county in 1868, and here our subject grew to manhood, receiving a country-school education. Richard Pyle owned

a farm and on it the son was reared and learned the rudiments of farming. This early instruction served him in good stead when he began to operate his own farm in Kewanee township. He owns farming property in Kansas, where he spent some years, residing there and in Nebraska for about nine years in all, engaged in farming operations, but he finally returned to Henry county.

On November 13, 1879, occurred the marriage of Mr. Pyle and Elizabeth Cronan, who was born in Kewanee, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Cronan. Her father is a retired farmer of Kewanee and a most highly esteemed man. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pyle, namely: Tessa A., wife of G. F. Quart, who is connected with the National Tube Company; Nellie E., who married Carl Custer, also connected with the National Tube Company; John C., who is with his father on the farm; Emma E., who married Otto Kuster, a farmer; Mable G., Frank R. and Raymond L., who are all at home.

Mr. Pyle is very active in the ranks of the republican party and in 1902 he was elected highway commissioner and was returned to the office in 1905 and for a third time in 1908. He has done much for the good of the township in inaugurating changes and improvements, and his efforts are appreciated by his neighbors and associates. For a number of years Mrs. Pyle has been a member of the German Evangelical church and her work in this body is very effective. Taking him all in all he is one of the representative men of his locality and he is making history today that tomorrow will have a profound influence upon the future, for every improvement is a big step forward in the development of the community, especially when directed by such a man as Mr. Pyle.

---

### CHARLES B. BLISH.

Of no one could it be said more truly than of Charles B. Blish, deceased, that "to live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." Although a citizen of Kewanee for a number of years, his birthplace was in Wethersfield and the date of his birth February 25, 1871. His father, Matthew B. Blish, was also a native of Wethersfield, who engaged in agriculture and dealt in thoroughbred cattle until his removal to Kewanee. The mother, before her marriage, Martha F. Morrill, came originally from Missouri. This worthy couple now reside in Citronelle, Alabama, the husband being sixty-one years of age and the wife sixty.

The education of Charles B. Blish was obtained in the public schools of Wethersfield and the high school of Kewanee. He subsequently returned to his father's farm, where he lent valuable assistance in the cattle business for the space of four years. In 1891 he returned to Kewanee and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he abandoned in a very short while. A very responsible position in the Western Tube Company was offered him and in this capacity he gave efficient service for a number of years. He and his father then formed a partnership in the bakery business and in this Mr. Blish continued for three years or until his death, March 16, 1905.

The subject of the sketch, who enjoyed an ideal home life, was married May 18, 1892, in Chicago, to Miss Sarah A. Jones, a daughter of Thomas Jones, of

the Western Tube Company of Kewanee. Since the death of his wife, Alice Crow (Morrill) Jones, which took place in Kewanee, January 27, 1909, at the age of fifty-eight years, Mr. Jones has made his home with his widowed daughter. Mr. Blish left one child, a daughter, Florence E., now sixteen years of age, who attends the high school.

Mr. Bliss was a loyal republican and, exceptionally well versed as he was in public matters, took an active part in local politics. He belonged to the Masonic body, holding membership in the Knights Templars, in which he held office at the time of his demise. He was further identified with the Elks, the Mystic Workers and the Maccabees. He was also a consistent member of the Baptist church of Kewanee. Well known, Mr. Blish was everywhere held in sincere affection, being one of those rare characters of whom it could be truly said that he had not a known enemy in the world. In anything pertaining to the good of the community Mr. Blish could always be counted upon to give his support.

---

### BYRON JORDAN.

Byron Jordan, who stands for progress in all things and was recognized as a leader among the stock raisers and shippers of Henry county, but is now retired, also has a notable record as a soldier of the Civil war. A native son of Illinois, he was born in Richland Grove, Mercer county, June 11, 1842. His ancestry is traced back to Rev. Robert Jordan, who was a clergyman of the Church of England and as early as 1641 presided over the church at Richmond island, off the coast of Maine. He married Sarah Winter, and that he was a man of more than average intelligence is indicated by the fact that he opposed the prevalent superstition of witchcraft. He died in 1678 at the age of sixty-eight years. In his family were six children, John, Robert, Dominicus, Jedediah, Samuel and Jeremiah. The line of ancestry is traced down through Dominicus, Nathaniel, Israel, and Robert Jordan, to Captain John A. Jordan, the father of our subject. The Rev. Robert Jordan belonged to a family that originated in Ireland, but religious persecution drove them to Scotland, and as indicated, it was early in the seventeenth century when the family was founded in America.

The grandfather of Byron Jordan was Robert Jordan, who in 1800 married Hannah Keating. They resided for a time in Rockland, Maine, and in 1832 removed to Seneca county, Ohio, where four days later Robert Jordan passed away. His widow there resided until 1845, when she went to live with a son in Wisconsin, but finally took up her abode with Captain John A. Jordan, passing away in his home in 1854. In the family were fourteen children, of whom seven became seafaring men.

John A. Jordan, the tenth child, was born in Camden, Maine, in 1819, and was a youth of fourteen at the time of the removal of the family to Ohio. After the death of his father he continued to live with his mother for five years, and in company with his twin brother, Thomas J. Jordan, he arrived at Richland Grove, Mercer county, Illinois, November 9, 1839. There he entered and purchased land to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres. At Richland Grove



BYRON JORDAN



he was married to Miss Rachel Metzler, and all of their children were there born including Byron, of this review; Edwin T., now residing in Montezuma, Iowa; William H., a government clerk living at Rock Island; and Olive M., who died at the age of seventeen years. In the spring of 1856 the father sold his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Mercer county and removed to Rock Island county, where he purchased a like amount of land in Rural township, then called Coal Valley. As his financial resources increased he added to his landed possessions until at one time he owned five hundred and twenty acres, of which one hundred and sixty acres were located in Iowa. At the time of the Civil war he was commissioned a captain of Company A, Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but after five months' service was stricken with paralysis, which ultimately caused his death in 1886, when he was sixty-seven years of age. His widow died in 1903 at the age of eighty-one years. Both were active Methodists and in politics John A. Jordan was an earnest republican, unfaltering and loyal in his allegiance to the party. He served as supervisor for one term and as justice of the peace for several terms, discharging the duties of both positions in a prompt and able manner. His decisions in the justice court were strictly fair and impartial and won him a high place in the regard of those who are loyal to the principles of righteousness and justice.

Byron Jordan spent the first fourteen years of his life in Mercer county and from 1856 until 1867 was a resident of Rock Island county, Illinois. He then lived in Henry county until 1876, after which he returned to Rock Island county, where he remained until 1902. He then again became a resident of Henry county, taking up his abode in Orion. His early education was acquired in the public schools while after his return from the war he attended the Western high school for a time. Throughout his entire business career he has successfully followed agricultural pursuits and in the last few years he has put into practical operation advanced theories on the erection of buildings for the feeding and protection of stock and poultry. In the spring of 1877 he planted five acres in white pine, sugar maple, white ash and black walnut. A splendid growth of these trees demonstrates what can be accomplished in the interests of forestry in this section. He is greatly interested in the subject of the preservation of forests and his opinions on the subject are worthy of attention.

The military chapter in the life history of Mr. Jordan is an interesting one. In 1862 he laid aside his text-books and joined Company C, of the One Hundred and Second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he continued to serve for almost three years, being honorably discharged in June, 1865, at the close of the war. He participated in the battle of Resaca, was with Sherman on the march to the sea, participated in the entire Carolina campaign and was altogether in twenty engagements. Upon his enlistment he was made sergeant, afterward becoming second lieutenant and during the last year of his service was in command of his company, his promotion coming to him in recognition of his bravery and fidelity.

On the 17th of November, 1867, Mr. Jordan was married to Miss Mary Anna Blackfan, a daughter of William and Elizabeth K. (Trego) Blackfan. Mrs. Jordan was the first white female child born in Western township, her natal day being October 22, 1841. She is a descendant of Edward Blackfan, who was

persecuted in England because of his religious belief and came to America about the time of William Penn. Tradition says that he was a cousin of the founder of the Penn colony and from him secured a grant to a large tract of land in what is now Bucks county, Pennsylvania. The title of most of this property remained in the family until 1859. William Blackfan with his wife and son, William, and daughter, Elizabeth, arrived at Stevenson, now Rock Island, May 3, 1841, after three weeks' journey by stage and canal boat to Pittsburg, thence by steam boat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi rivers. He purchased a forty-acre tract of land in Western township upon a part of which the town of Orion now stands. Mr. Blackfan died November 10, 1843, leaving a widow and four children, a son, Samuel, having been born in the previous July. One daughter, Mary Anna, had been born after the arrival of the family in this section. Mrs. Blackfan toiled nobly and by strict economy and indomitable energy succeeded in keeping her little family together, and as the years passed and the children grew and added their strength to hers, she was able to extend the boundaries of her little farm by the additional purchase of sixty acres, making a good farm of one hundred acres. It was twelve years after the death of her husband before public schools were opened, during which time a teacher was hired to train the children. In 1855 the public school system was inaugurated and all of the children attended, and later Mrs. Jordan became a pupil of the Rock Island high school. She taught for six months in the local schools, afterward attended Lombard College at Galesburg, Illinois, and later again engaged in teaching.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jordan were born four children: Roland B.; Elmer H.; Samuel Lester, deceased; and Erwin B. The eldest son, who lives in Roseville, Illinois, is a carpenter by trade and married Miss Linnie Davis, who died when their daughter Edith was only twelve days old. He afterward wedded Miss Sophia Davenport. Elmer is in business at Winfield, Kansas, and Erwin is a civil engineer.

On attaining his majority Mr. Jordan became a republican, but for the past few years has supported the men and measures of the prohibition party, and has served as county chairman. He has been a delegate to numerous state conventions of his party and in 1896 attended as a delegate the national prohibition convention at Pittsburg. In 1894 he ran as the prohibition candidate for state senator in the twenty-third senatorial district, and received a fair vote. He is a faithful member of the Methodist church in which he is now filling the position of steward, trustee and teacher in the Sunday school. He is very prominent in the Rock Island Camp Meeting Association, having been a member of its executive committee for a number of years, and is now its vice president. Mrs. Jordan was also a member of the Methodist church and during her life had taken special interest in philanthropic and charitable work, building and furnishing a room at the Deaconess Hospital at Peoria, and also furnishing a room in a school for poor white girls in the south, and was actively engaged in various other lines of religious and charitable work. She passed away January 16, 1910. Mr. Jordan is a visiting member of Heding College at Abingdon, Illinois, and fraternally holds membership in Edgar Trego Post, No. 394, G. A. R. Kind hearted and generous, he allows the use of his grove for picnics, and it has become a very popular place among pleasure seekers. Genial and kindly in nature,



MRS. BYRON JORDAN



he fully appreciates his obligations to his fellowmen, and his honorable principles and upright manhood have won for him the high regard, confidence and good will of all with whom he has come in contact, while the consensus of public opinion accords him prominence among the valued and representative citizens of Western township.

---

### WILLIAM L. STITT.

Among the more successful and prominent agriculturists of Oxford township is William L. Stitt, who is carrying on the work begun by his father, James Stitt, with most gratifying results. The family is of remotely Irish descent, a great-grandfather of our subject having come from County Down, Ireland, in 1791. He settled in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, whence his descendants have come to Illinois. His son, William Stitt, was a successful agriculturist there until 1856, when he came with his son James, to Oxford township, this county. Here he lived until his death, in 1873. His wife, who was Margaret Harmonni before her marriage, was of German parentage but Pennsylvanian birth and survived him about six years.

James Stitt, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, October 4, 1827. In his youth he learned the tailor's trade, which he followed until the news of the gold discovery in California having reached him he set out to make his fortunes there. In 1850 he joined an overland wagon train, and after spending about two years in the western state, prospecting and mining in the gold country, he returned home by way of the isthmus of Panama and New York city. In 1853 he married and removed to Stockbridge, Michigan, where he followed his trade and engaged in farming. The next year, however, he came to Henry county, Illinois, and, arriving here July 4, 1854, secured the tract upon which his son is living today. After the inauguration of the Civil war, Mr. Stitt enlisted in 1862, in Company D, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, spending the next three years in active service upon the battlefield. During that time he participated in a large number of important engagements, among them being the battles of Knoxville, Resaca, the Atlanta campaign, Franklin, Nashville and Wilmington. He was also present during the raiding of eastern Tennessee. In a large number of lesser fights he proved his valor and was twice wounded at Knoxville and once seriously at Wilmington, North Carolina. After the close of the war, having received an honorable discharge June 20, 1865, Mr. Stitt returned to his family in Henry county, taking up farming. He made a number of improvements on his place, and as his enterprises prospered invested extensively in land in Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas. He was also widely known as a stockman of importance, whose operations were ever attended with profit.

James Stitt was twice married. Before he left his native home he was united, in 1853, to Miss Elizabeth Hammond, who died in 1869, leaving five of the seven children born to them, namely: Lawrence, who is married and lives in Colorado; Frank E., who is married and lives in St. Charles, South Dakota; Amanda, who became the wife of W. C. Cole, December 9, 1885, and died September 9, 1896;

Wesley K., who is married and lives in Marcus, Iowa; and Elmer M., who makes his home in Clarinda, Iowa. On the 19th of August, 1869, Mr. Stitt married a second time, his wife being Miss Mary J. Paden, who was born in Knox county, Illinois, and was a daughter of D. J. Paden. She was reared in Henry county and, having received a good education, was engaged in teaching for a number of years before her marriage. She was a woman of ability, who directed the management of the Stitt homestead for several years after her husband's death. Through her union with James Stitt she became the mother of five children: Charles, who is married and lives in Wichita, Kansas; James H., of Gary, Indiana; William L., the subject of this sketch; Lucia, who was one of the successful teachers of Henry county; and Harry W., who attended the University of Illinois at Champaign and is now in Wallace county, Kansas.

The father was intimately connected with the public life of Oxford township, for he had served as school trustee and filled other offices of responsibility. In early years he was an adherent of the republican party, but later, being a strong temperance man, he supported the principles of the prohibition party. For more than forty years he was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his honorable and upright life gained for him the esteem of all who knew him. His death occurred April 25, 1896.

William L. Stitt, a worthy son of so noble a father, was born upon the farm upon which he now lives, March 12, 1877. Upon it also he grew to maturity, assisting in the general work that was carried on there, while he received a fair education in the public schools of Alpha, which served as foundation for later intellectual attainments. Subsequently he attended college at Valparaiso, Indiana, taking the business and teachers course, for he looked forward to making teaching his profession. His father's death, however, compelled him to change his plans, as he was called home to assume the management of the farm in conjunction with his brother, James H. In 1903 he married, and while he continued farming in Oxford township, it was not until 1906 that he finally made the Stitt place his permanent residence when his mother and sister removed to Abingdon, Illinois. It is one of the splendid tracts of arable land in that township, is all under a high state of cultivation and well improved, the son maintaining his father's reputation as a first-class farmer. Like the latter he has engaged in stock raising and feeding to some extent, although he has not devoted to it the time or attention that his father did. Progressive and energetic, he has won a success that may compare favorably with that attained by the other, even without considering the disparity of their ages and the difference in the amount of their experience.

It was on the 11th of February, 1903, that Mr. Stitt was united in marriage to Miss Ella J. Cederberg, who was living in the vicinity of Galva but had previously made her home at Woodhull. Her parents had come from Sweden to America as young people and were married after they arrived here. Mr. and Mrs. Stitt have one son and one daughter: Lloyd L. and Mary.

He is a prohibitionist in his political views and is actively concerned in advocating its cause throughout the county. His influence is also felt in local affairs, for he is serving as road commissioner, a position to which he was elected two years ago, and is a member of the Alpha board of education. Deeply interested

in the maintenance of first class public schools, he has spared no effort to make the local institutions among the most successful of the county. Fraternally he enjoys pleasant relations with the Modern Woodmen, and with his wife belongs to the Mystic Workers. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, active in its work and in its Sunday school, Mr. Stitt being one of the trustees. A young man of progressive ideas, of proved integrity and high character, he enjoys an enviable reputation in the community to whose advancement he has contributed so much.

---

### SAMUEL C. McBRIDE.

Samuel C. McBride, his father, John McBride, and his grandfather, William McBride, were all three of them born in Mount Joy, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, a somewhat unusual occurrence. Possessing a love for their native land, they were without exception good citizens and their record in patriotism is both interesting and inspiring. The grandfather, who was a lime burner by trade, served in the war of 1812 and received as a compensation one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon a part of which the town of Keokuk, Iowa, now stands. He passed on to his reward about 1861 in the county of his birth, having attained to the advanced age of ninety-eight years. The father, born near the beginning of the nineteenth century, was a distiller, who in his later life abandoned that occupation for agriculture. He also died in Lancaster county at the age of ninety-eight. The mother of our subject, Sarah (Meldrom) McBride, was born near Columbia, Lancaster county, and ended a useful and virtuous life on the old home place, she too, having achieved more than the psalmist's allotted time of life, being eighty-seven years old when called away.

The date of the birth of Samuel C. McBride, the subject of the sketch, was May 9, 1829. He became well grounded in the "Three R's" and such other knowledge as the district schools of that day afforded. He worked on his father's farm until December 25, 1850, when fearing with Shakespeare that "Homekeeping youth have ever homely wits," he bade adieu to the family circle and went to Cambridge, Ohio, where he remained with an uncle for the three years following. His uncle was a cattle dealer and he improved the opportunity to become thoroughly acquainted with that line of business. Thus equipped he secured a position with Adams Brothers, cattle dealers of Dresden, Ohio, and continued with them for six months, and then removed to Coshocton county, Ohio, where for some time he worked as a farm hand and on the canal. On March 1, 1865, he arrived in Kewanee and spent the first six months of his residence in Henry county in the employ of Samuel Brown, who operated the Tenny farm. The winter following he made his living as a wood chopper. During the next three years he spent the winters in Kewanee as a coal miner and the open seasons in Bureau county breaking prairie. The regular course of his life was interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war when he gave three years service to his country, enlisting August 9, 1862. He was duly mustered out and returned home in Sep-

tember, 1865. Later he engaged in mining and well drilling and, having prospered, he retired in 1908 after a busy life.

Mr. McBride was married July 3, 1859, in Kewanee, to Miss Livinia E. Seuger, of Ohio, who was originally from the state of New York. They have one son, William J., an artist, who received his training in the Chicago Art Institute and is now a resident of Chicago.

It would be difficult to find in the length and breadth of the land a stancher republican than Samuel C. McBride. It is his practice to vote the straight ticket at presidential elections, and he has been very influential in his championship of his party. He is a prominent member of the Julius A. Pratt Post, No. 162, of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. McBride is a man of undoubted worth and stands high in the regard of his fellow citizens.

---

### OLOF W. JOHNSON.

Olof W. Johnson, who is the proprietor of the only successful harness shop which has been operated in the village of Bishop Hill, is one of its native sons who have attained a fair name and pronounced good fortune. He was born December 4, 1859, his parents being John B. and Brita Johnson. The father was a native of Ongermandland, Sweden, his birth having occurred in 1814. He joined the little band of men and women who joined the Bishop Hill colony in 1850 and was prominently known in its midst, for his physical strength brought him a renown that equaled that which he obtained as a workman and a citizen. He was familiarly called the giant of the place, for in his prime he stood six feet and four inches in height, and at one time lifted a dead weight of thirteen hundred and sixty-five pounds. During the existence of the colony he was its wagonmaker, but after it was dissolved he engaged in the cultivation of the soil, to which he devoted his energies until his death. This occurred in 1891, when he was in the seventy-seventh year of his age. The mother of our subject, who was born in Bolnas, Helsingland, Sweden, in 1827, came to Henry county and to the Bishop Hill colony at the same time as did her husband. She lived until 1904 and was also seventy-seven years old when her life was ended.

Olof W. Johnson attended the Bishop Hill school and that of district 23, Welter township, and grew to manhood upon the old homestead about a mile and a half west of the village. He devoted himself to agricultural pursuits until 1905, when he went to Cody, Wyoming, and there engaged in irrigating. After two years experience he sold his interests and returned to Bishop Hill, where shortly after he established himself in the harnessmaking business. In addition to being the first successful enterprise of its kind here, the shop contains a complete line of harness and harness supplies, while Mr. Johnson will make to order anything that is requested of him. He also carries a large stock of carriage and wagon woods and hardware and conducts a general repair shop. As his store is furnished with almost all the necessities of its kind and the shop equipped with the most modern machinery, it supplies a long-felt want in the village. The efficiency of its proprietor, his skill in workmanship and the high principles which

have guided his relations with his fellow townsmen have placed him in a position where he commands their highest regard.

In Council Bluffs, Iowa, June 30, 1908, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Johnson and Miss Katherine Johnson, a school teacher at Loomis, Nebraska, and is a daughter of Olof Johnson, a prominent physician of that place. His father was a republican in his political affiliations, but in his youth our subject gave his allegiance to the democrats and since attaining his majority votes the prohibition ticket. However, he has always put men and measures before parties and adherence to them, so that the candidate who represents the best interests of the community may count upon his support. He has taken some part in local affairs, for he has served one term each as township assessor and collector, and for two years was on the village police force. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Good Templars, among whose members he has many stanch friends. For his recreation he plays upon the violin, and with the spirit of the true musician, combined with his ability as a workman, he has in his possession several instruments which he has himself made. The house in which he lives was built by him two years ago, and there is dispensed that gracious hospitality which make welcome friends and worthy strangers alike.

---

#### WILLIAM ELMER WEIDLEIN.

William Elmer Weidlein, who has won success as a farmer and stockman, was born February 27, 1865, in Edford township, about a mile north of his present home which is on section 6, Osco township. His parents are Andrew and Sarah (Conrad) Weidlein, who are now living in retirement in Geneseo. About 1869 Mr. Weidlein sold the tract of land on which his son had been born and moved to Osco township, purchasing the farm on which William E. Weidlein is living today. For more than a quarter of a century he followed general agricultural pursuits, deriving an income which seemed to justify his relinquishing, in 1895, the heavier of life's cares and enjoying the rest from toil he so richly deserved.

As he was but four years old when his father came to Osco township, William E. Weidlein has passed almost his whole life upon the farm, from which he now obtains his comfortable income. He attended the district school of his locality, and, having completed the prescribed course, at the age of sixteen went to the high school in Geneseo. After one year spent at that institution he entered the Northwestern Normal, from which he was graduated with the class of 1886. Then he returned to the agricultural life which had not been interrupted seriously during the time he was a student for he took a full part in it in the summer months and at such other periods as were not given to the pursuit of his lessons. A few years later he embarked in the hardware business in Geneseo, but the venture proved rather unsuccessful than otherwise, and Mr. Weidlein sold his interests and stock, returning to his father's farm which he has tilled ever since. Its four hundred and eighty acres are sufficient in their

extent to require a man's whole attention, if he is to derive from them the best returns for his labor.

At Clinton, Illinois, February 15, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Weidlein and Miss Kittie Marlatt, of Clinton. She was born in Munson township, her parents being George H. and Jennie (Calhoun) Marlatt, but at the age of ten she went to live with a maternal uncle, Hon. W. F. Calhoun, at whose home she grew to womanhood. She received a good common school education and was attending the Northwestern Normal for voice culture when she met Mr. Weidlein. Of their union four children have been born. Max Andrew died in infancy. Eunice Grace, after completing the course of the county school, attended Knox College, Galesburg, where she took both an English course and one in music. Vera Cleone is now a student in the Geneseo high school. Lyle Marlatt, the youngest died at the age of five.

Mr. Weidlein has steadfastly given his support to the republican party, but although he has played no small part in local affairs, he cannot be called an office seeker in any sense of the word. The capacities in which he has served the people are those of highway commissioner, assessor and school director, and in every case he has proved himself to be a man who was ever ready to exert himself for the advancement of his people, who was just and honorable and endowed with good judgment. He is also well known in the fraternal circles of his township, for he is a member of Stewart Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Lodge, No. 172, I. O. O. F., while with Mrs. Weidlein he belongs to the Eastern Star, the Daughters of Rebekah, and the Royal Neighbors of Geneseo. In the meetings of these bodies he has proved that he is a man of social qualities as well of high business ability.

---

### EDWARD LINDQUIST.

Edward Lindquist, one of Lynn township's valued citizens, was born within its limits February 23, 1870. His parents were Gustaf and Caroline (Marsh) Lindquist, early settlers in this section. Both of them were born in Sweden, the mother coming to the United States when very young with her father and other members of the family, her mother having died in their native land. Gustaf Lindquist came alone, his parents never having emigrated to America. He was possessed of energy and thrift and became a successful farmer and large land-owner, as well as a man of high standing in the neighborhood on account of his unimpeachable character. He and his wife were the parents of six children, three of whom died in infancy, while a son named Theodore died when about twenty years of age. Those surviving are Edward, the subject of this sketch; and Amanda, now the wife of S. P. Neystrom, a prominent farmer of Lynn township, whose sketch appears in another part of this work. The father was a member of the Lutheran church of Andover. His death occurred in 1900, but his widow, a most estimable woman, still survives.

Edward Lindquist was reared upon the home farm and as soon as old enough assisted in the work. In the winter, when there was a slackening in

agricultural activity, he obtained his education in the district schools. After his marriage in 1893 he took possession of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of fine land in Lynn township, where he and his family reside. This Mr. Lindquist has improved and brought to the high state of perfection made possible by modern methods. In addition to the splendid crops for which he is noted, he is a successful breeder of thoroughbred Shire draught horses, his fine animals commanding a high price.

On March 22, 1893, Mr. Lindquist was married to Miss Cordelia Anderson, a daughter of John O. and Anna (Joungquist) Anderson, both of whom were born in Sweden. Their parents were not among those who were caught in the current of emigration, the two young people coming to the new world with friends. They were married in the United States and settled in Henry county, Illinois. Fortune smiled upon Mr. Anderson's agricultural endeavor and he gained a competence which he enjoyed together with the esteem of his friends. He is now living a retired life at Orion. His wife died May 20, 1898, and her remains were interred in Orion cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had a family of nine children as follows: Anna, deceased; John W., of North Dakota; Charles and Henry, both deceased; Lottie, now Mrs. Peter Samuelson, of Orion, Illinois; Carl Alfred, of North Dakota; Albert, deceased; Amanda A., now Mrs. Albert Jacobson of Lynn township; and Cordelia, the wife of the subject of the sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist have a family of three sons named Archie, Cyrus and Russell.

Mr. Lindquist upholds the tenets of republicanism and is active in party and public affairs. His wisdom in matters of public welfare has caused his fellow citizens to repose in him numerous trusts. He served for a number of years as a member of the republican county central committee and many times as delegate to county and district conventions. He has been a member of the Lynn township board of elections and has held the office of township assessor. For no less than fourteen years he was a valued member of the school board and at the present time serves as township school trustee. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church of Andover. In this same church his father was a trustee and active worker for many years, which gives the son's association with it a still deeper meaning. Mr. Lindquist is a fine man and a public-spirited citizen, an advocate of progress, especially as applied to good roads and good public schools. All measures that have in view substantial progress and all honest efforts to accomplish this have his hearty cooperation.

---

#### ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL.

The St. Francis Hospital at Kewanee was founded in the following manner. On January 10, 1902, Rev. D. L. Crowe wrote to the Mother Superior at St. Anthony's Hospital, Rock Island, Illinois, for three or four Sisters to open a hospital at Kewanee. On January 14 of that same year, Mother Mary Michael and Sister Mary Bernardine visited Kewanee and after the matter was talked

over with Rev. D. L. Crowe, and representatives of the physicians' club, the Sisters decided to accept the work.

On January 17, 1902, Rev. D. L. Crowe purchased the Scott property on the corner of Tremont and South streets for the sum of forty-eight hundred dollars. Father Crowe paying fifteen hundred dollars on the property as a donation to the hospital, but the Sisters afterward sold the place to the Baptists for sixty-five hundred dollars. Rt. Rev. Bishop Spalding and the Mother Superior at Rock Island appointed Sister Mary Bernardine to take charge of the work. She with two other Sisters made arrangements at once to meet a committee of the citizens of Kewanee, among whom were J. H. Pierce, president of the Western Tube Company; C. I. Pierce; E. E. Baker, president of the Boiler Company; B. F. Baker; James Quirk; John Fischer; Will Lyman; and A. M. Hewlett, the successor to J. H. Pierce, benefactor of the hospital.

It was decided at once that the Sisters should begin collecting funds for the hospital, and they met with unexpected success, overcoming all obstacles. On February 15, 1902, they took charge of the house and began making improvements as many changes were necessary. Partitions were put in, hard wood floors laid and a bathroom and electricity installed. The kitchen was made over into an operating room; the dining room was made the male ward; the front parlor a private room, and the other rooms were arranged as was most convenient. The basement was fitted up as a kitchen, dining room, store room and laundry. There were eleven beds for hospital use and later as many as eighteen patients were accommodated by crowding beds in the halls and elsewhere.

The hospital was opened to receive patients March 19, 1902, and the first patient received was a charity patient who was coming down with lagrippe, James Stokes, of Kewanee. The first surgical operation was performed March 20, 1902, by Drs. Oliver, Hiflin and Russell. Dr. Russell died in 1904, and his loss was deeply felt by the hospital for he had a promising career ahead of him and was faithful to his charges.

During the first year three hundred and twenty-five patients were received, and of these but fourteen died. One hundred and ninety-seven days were given to charity. On May 20, 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Lyman donated a site for a new hospital at the corner of Elliott and Prospect streets, valued at eight thousand dollars. The Sisters at once had plans drawn for a new hospital by Doerr Brothers, of Chicago, the cost of the building to be fifty thousand dollars. The plans were examined by Rt. Rev. Bishop Spalding, Father Crowe, the physicians and the committee of citizens having the work in charge, all were satisfied, and the contract was let without delay and the cornerstone was laid December 8, 1903.

The dedication of the hospital took place July 24, 1904. The advisory committee was composed of the following: Father Crowe, pastor of Visitation church; A. M. Hewlett, president of the Western Tube Company; B. F. Baker, vice president of the Kewanee Boiler Company; Charles I. Pierce, president of the Big Creek Coal Company; John Fischer, president the Kewanee Savings Bank; and E. C. O'Connor, mayor of Kewanee. The principal speaker was the Rt. Rev. Bishop Spalding and he spoke eloquently and touchingly of the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman and the grand work of the hospital Sis-

ters. Music was furnished by the Visitation church choir and Kewanee military band. The parade was headed by mounted police and the military company. Bishop Spalding gave a second address and Dean Mackin, of Rock Island, and Rev. W. D. McLean, rector of St. John's church, also made addresses.

The new hospital has a capacity of fifty-two rooms and nearly all of them were furnished by individuals and societies of every denomination. The first patients were received August 12, 1904. On May 24, 1906, the Lyman-Lay Company donated a lot of ground north of the hospital as a training school for nurses, which was opened in March of that year. Sister Mary Bernardine died November 28 of this same year. Her successor is Sister Mary Bernadetta, one of the first Sisters to come to Kewanee in 1902. The first class of nurses graduated April 21, 1908.

St. Francis Hospital is one of the institutions of which Kewanee is justly proud for it represents the public-spirit and warm-hearted charity of all the people irrespective of religious views. It is truly a great work and worthy the people who have fathered it.

---

#### FRANK H. BROWN.

Frank H. Brown, a progressive young agriculturist of Henry county, Illinois, who, in connection with his brother, has recently begun to deal in automobiles manufactured at Lansing, Michigan, was born here July 29, 1882, in the house where he now makes his home on section 15, Osco township, and is the son of James M. and Martha E. (Myers) Brown. Both were natives of Fulton county, Illinois, where they grew to years of maturity and after their marriage came to Henry county, where the father bought land and on this farm spent his remaining days. His time and energies were devoted to the further improvement of the place, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, adding from time to time all the modern conveniences and accessories with which to carry on the work by the most advanced methods. Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. James M. Brown: May, who makes her home with her mother; Roy S.; and Frank H. In his political views the father was a republican, although he never cared to hold office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his farming interests and his leisure hours with his family, whose comfort and happiness were his chief consideration. His death occurred May 4, 1893.

Spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, Frank H. Brown received the advantages of a common school education and later continued his studies for two terms at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. In the meantime, under his father's capable direction, he became an apt pupil in the school of experience, devoting his vacations to the study of the soil, selection of the different cereals to be planted each year, learning how to properly care for the stock, and all through the busy summer season assisting his father until his death, when he continued to carry on the work under the able management of his mother. When he attained his majority he assumed entire control and, though he is yet

a young man, has prospered in his undertakings and achieved success that an older, more experienced man might well envy.

Frank H. Brown was united in marriage on the 6th of February, 1907, in Rock Island, Illinois, to Miss Jessie W. Hornecker, a resident of Cambridge. She was born in Edford township and is a daughter of Martin and Martha (Shoemaker) Hornecker. They now reside on the old homestead on section 15, Osco township, which includes one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, and his mother also owns eighty acres on section 9, in Osco township. In addition to his cultivation of these two farms he has extensive stock-raising interests, feeding and shipping stock and thereby obtaining substantial returns for his labors in this branch of his business. In the spring of 1909 he and his brother became interested in automobiles, especially those of the Reo make that are manufactured in Lansing, Michigan, and since engaging in this business sold six machines in four months time, from April to August, 1909. Mr. Brown, believing most firmly in the platform of the republican party, is using his vote and influence to elect the candidates of that faith where national issues are involved, and in 1904 cast his first presidential ballot for Theodore Roosevelt.

---

#### ANDREW APPELL.

Andrew Appell makes his home on an excellent farm in Galva township. His birth occurred in Sweden in October, 1844, his parents being Peter M. and Anna Brita Appell, who were likewise natives of that country. The father was a drummer in the regular army of Sweden and followed farming as a means of livelihood. He with wife and children crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1852 and made his way direct to Chicago, Illinois, where he died of cholera a few days after his arrival. Traveling at that time was very troublesome. The entire journey lasted about six months—from the time they left their home in Sweden till they reached their destination in Victoria. Nine weeks were spent on a sailing vessel going across the ocean. Between New York and Chicago they traveled partly by flatboat on the canal and on Lake Erie. From Chicago they crossed the prairie in a lumber wagon, as there were no railroads in that part of the state. His death came very suddenly and unexpectedly, for only the previous day he had gone on a hunting trip. He was forty-two years of age at the time of his demise. His widow took up her abode in Knox county in the same year, settling near Victoria township. She lived in a log house the first two years and endured many hardships and privations. Her demise occurred in 1889, when she had attained the age of seventy-seven years. She was the mother of nine children, two of whom still survive—Charles and Andrew. Two others lived to maturity, namely: Alfred, who passed away during the period of the Civil war; and Louisa, who gave her hand in marriage to Oscar Dowell and died about the year 1897.

Andrew Appell was a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. He was reared in Knox county, living on a farm there with his mother and brother Charles until he had attained

his majority. His mother purchased a farm of eighty acres and the two boys bought one hundred and sixty acres together, our subject's share being fifty-three acres. Subsequently they purchased two quarter sections of land. Mr. Appell of this review now owns altogether five hundred and forty acres of rich and productive farming land. He made his home in Knox county until 1891 and still owns a tract of two hundred and twenty acres there. His landed holdings in Henry county embrace three hundred and twenty acres, two hundred and forty acres of which lie in Wethersfield township, while the remaining eighty-acre tract is on section 34, Galva township, and constitutes his home place. It is located just south of the corporate limits of Galva and is a highly improved and valuable property, on which are seen all of the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. The residence is a commodious and attractive structure and all of the other buildings are kept in a good state of repair. Mr. Appell is a man of untiring energy and excellent business ability and in the conduct of his agricultural interests has won a measure of success that entitles him to recognition among the most prosperous, enterprising and progressive citizens of the community.

In 1876 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Appell and Miss Matilda Peterson, a native of Sweden and a daughter of Peter M. and Anna Brita Peterson, who spent their entire lives in that country. Mrs. Appell's father was a prominent man in his community. He was entrusted with many public duties and served as justice of the peace for over thirty years. In 1869 Mrs. Appell made the voyage to the United States in company with some friends and after her arrival in this country lived in Chicago for a number of years. She came to Knox county, this state, in 1876. She was one of a family of ten children, four of whom are now living in this country, namely: Mrs. Sarah Anderson; Peter Halsted, a resident of Wadena, Minnesota; Mrs. Appell; and Mrs. Clara Lagequist. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Appell have been born four children: Gottfred and Lillie, at home; and two who died in infancy.

When national questions and issues are involved Mr. Appell casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party but at local elections votes independently, supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office. Both he and his wife are faithful and consistent members of the Swedish Lutheran church, the teachings of which they exemplify in their daily lives. They are well known in social circles and enjoy in large measure the friendship and kindly regard of those with whom they have been brought in contact.

---

#### GILBERT C. SAMUELSON.

Gilbert C. Samuelson, a farmer and stock raiser, feeder and shipper of Osco township, who owns forty acres on section 17, while he also operates his father's place of two hundred and forty acres, in the same township, was born in Western township, February 5, 1869, his parents being James and Clara (Manguson) Samuelson. When he was about six years old his father sold his farm in West-

ern township and purchased the land on which he lives today for sixty-five dollars an acre. Here Gilbert C. Samuelson grew to manhood, being about fourteen when in 1882 his mother died. In 1897 his father moved to Cambridge, leaving his son in charge of the farm which he had assisted in tilling from his boyhood days. His daughter, Mabel, the only other child born to him and his wife, accompanied him to Cambridge and gives him the comforts of a home which can be obtained only through a woman's presence. From his own farm and the tract belonging to his father which he operates, Gilbert C. Samuelson has won a large return for his many hours of hard labor. Familiar as he has been with the nature of the soil from his earliest years, he has had but to cultivate it by the most approved methods to obtain the large harvests which are his pride. In addition to the raising of cereals, however, he has devoted a great deal of time to the stock business, making shipments annually to the important markets. His industry has been the measure of his success and he finds that each year makes a gratifying increase to the income that he derives from his labors.

Mr. Samuelson has been married twice. On the 12th of December, 1894, he wedded Miss Dora L. Johnson, who was born and reared in Lynn township, Henry county, her parents being George H. and Anna (Bergstrom) Johnson. Of this union were two children born: Grace, whose birth occurred in Clover township, and Herbert, born on the home farm in Osco township. Mrs. Samuelson passed away June 28, 1902. On the 6th of September, 1905, Mr. Samuelson married again, his second wife being Miss Carrie Baird. She was born in Portland, Indiana, March 5, 1884, and is a daughter of Charles and Emma (Dull) Baird. Mr. Baird, who passed away January 5, 1907, in Munson township, after a two weeks' illness that resulted in inflammation of the brain and paralysis, was born in that township, January 9, 1857. He graduated from the classical department of the schools of Valparaiso, Indiana, with the class of 1883. After the completion of his education he devoted several years to teaching school. First he had charge of the department of mathematics in the schools of Portland, Indiana, being assisted by his wife, and then upon resigning this position he went to the business college in Helena, Montana, where he taught mathematics, penmanship and commercial law. This he also resigned after a considerable length of time, to accept a responsible and more lucrative position in the office of the Rocky Mountain division of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1891 he returned to Henry county to become instructor in the business department of the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, fulfilling his duties in that capacity for about eleven years. Five years before his death he retired to a farm in Munson township on which he lived with his family the remaining years of his life.

Immediately after his graduation he wedded Miss Emma Reese Dull, of Hamlet, Indiana, and of their union were born three children: Carrie Reese, who is now Mrs. Samuelson; Charles Glen, the only son; and Nellie Merle who was the youngest. These with his widow still survive. Mr. Baird possessed many noble qualities of head and heart. As a husband and father he was loving and loved; as a friend he was loyal, sincere and unchangeable; and believing in the promises of God he lived and died a Christian. Men and women were the

better for his life and when his race was over he was deeply mourned by all who had occasion to know him.

Mr. Samuelson has always allied himself with the republican party, but although he has served as school trustee and director for a number of years he is not an aspirant for public office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee, while of the Sunday-school since its organization, Mrs. Samuelson has been superintendent. Fraternally he enjoys most pleasant relations with the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America at Osco, and both Mr. and Mrs. Samuelson belong to the Royal Neighbors, Mrs. Samuelson having been chosen receiver of the local camp.

---

### JOHN W. JOHNSON.

John W. Johnson, a farmer of Oxford township, was born in Delaware county, Indiana, January 23, 1857, and is a son of John M. and Sarah A. (Cree) Johnson. The father was a farmer in that state and was accounted a successful man, although he had a very hard life for his parents died of the cholera when he was but two years of age and he was early compelled to make his own way in the world. He did not even have the advantage of a good education, in fact he received scarcely any, and yet he pushed ahead, making the best use of the gifts nature bestowed upon him and the opportunities that came his way. In 1859 he moved his family to Illinois, locating in Oxford township, Henry county. Here he continued to follow agricultural pursuits with success and profit, and also engaged in threshing, owning a machine which he took to various farms in his vicinity. Although he had almost no education he was very quick at figures, could calculate interest in his head and at the end of a season could tell the amount of grain he had threshed for each farmer. He kept no books for his accounts, for his memory served him better than paper and ink. Mr. Johnson was married twice. By his first wife he had a family of four children: Richard, Elizabeth, Mary C. and John W. The last is the only one now living, the two eldest having died in their youth, and Mary C. when she had reached years of maturity. The mother died in 1860 and shortly afterward Mr. Johnson married Miss Sarah A. Davis, who bore him five children, all of whom are living: Emma, Frank, Augusta, Martha and Lida. Mrs. Johnson died in the spring of 1907, and her husband had passed away many years before, his death having occurred October 10, 1883. He was a democrat in his political views and was always interested in public matters, especially in good schools, whose efficiency he tried to promote in the years he was a member of the school board for he was conscious of the advantages he had missed through his inability to attend school.

John W. Johnson grew to young manhood upon his father's farm and after completing the course of study prescribed by the schools of Oxford township attended Hedding College at Abingdon for a few years, after which he returned to his home. At the age of twenty-four he married and brought his bride to the old Johnson homestead which is his home at present. It is a fine tract of land.

highly cultivated and well improved, on which Mr. Johnson farms on a large scale, giving his attention principally to the raising of corn and oats. In the fall of 1901, about the 8th of September, Mr. Johnson embarked in the furniture and undertaking business in Alpha. Two years later he sold his interests there and removed to Cambridge, where he continued in the same business. He remained there only three years, however, and then returned to his farm, which he had ever regarded as his home. He had always been interested in commercial affairs and in 1899 had organized the Alpha Check Rower Company, of which he was president until it went out of business. Early in his life, when a tiller of the soil, he bought a corn sheller and enjoys the distinction of having shelled more corn than any other man in Henry county, for since 1871 the total of bushels to his credit amounts to one million, seven hundred thousand and more.

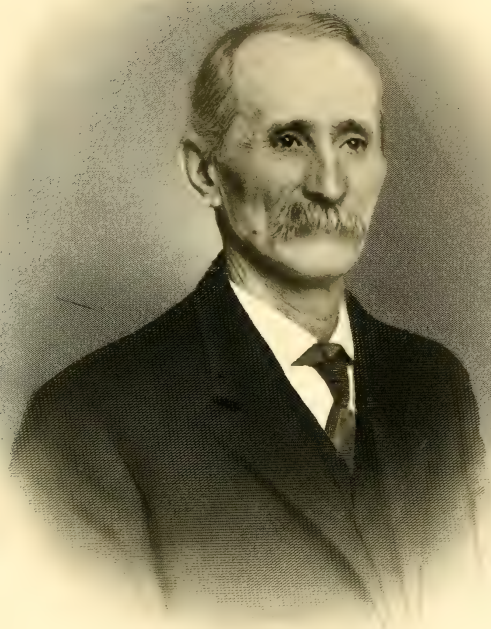
On the 3d of February, 1881, Mr. Johnson married Miss Anna G. Engle, a daughter of Hudson B. and Sarah (Elwell) Engle. The parents were natives of New Jersey and Vermont respectively and came to Illinois in early days, settling in Western township, Henry county, before the town of Orion was laid out. The father identified himself closely with the farming interests of that township and attained to high respect among the citizens there. Both he and his wife are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born two sons and one daughter. Ralph H., the eldest, was graduated from the Chicago Veterinary College in 1909 and is now practicing his profession in Farmington, Minnesota. Mary M. is the wife of George Bland, a farmer of Oxford township. Telford E. is at home and is a student in the Alpha schools.

Mr. Johnson affiliates with the republican party and has always been active in political affairs having served the township in various capacities. He has efficiently fulfilled the duties of the town clerk, has served as commissioner of the highways for a period of twelve years, and for five years was on the school board and then resigned that position. In the Baptist church, to which his family belong, he is also active, having been church clerk for twenty-five years and for a period of nearly that length superintendent of the Sunday school. At the present he is a teacher in this department of church work. In the ranks of the Mystic Workers he is well known for the qualities that have made him so strong a citizen have come to the fore in his relations with his fraternal brothers. A man of public spirit, he does all in his power for the improvement of the schools and of the roads, in fact supports everything that makes for the progress of his community.

---

#### GEORGE FUNK.

George Funk, who is one of the more prosperous of the older generation of farmers of Henry county, owns a well improved tract of one hundred and sixty acres on section 31, Cornwall township, where he makes his home, and also owns the southeast quarter of section 36, Munson township, and eighty acres of the north half of the northwest quarter of section 5, Burns township. He was born



GEORGE FUNK



in Rockingham county, Virginia, January 10, 1847, his parents being Abraham and Matilda (Armentrout) Funk. The ancestors on the paternal side came originally from Switzerland, but the family has been identified with American history for a number of generations. The grandfather, Christian Funk, was a native of Pennsylvania, and there married Susannah Gile. For a time the couple resided in Lancaster county, that state, and then, when their son Abraham was about seven years of age, removed to Rockingham county, Virginia.

Abraham Funk, the father of George Funk, grew to maturity in the Old Dominion and in Rockingham county was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Armentrout, a native of that section and a daughter of parents who were opposed to slavery. Mr. Funk also held the same opinion and was a strong Union man after the inauguration of the Civil war and as he was very frank in expressing his views he was cast into prison. Later, in 1862, when he was liberated he traded his Virginia home for four hundred acres in Henry county, Illinois, and, having obtained a pass from Jefferson Davis, he brought his family here. Seven children had been born to him and his wife, but only three daughters and his son George accompanied him upon this tedious journey. The eldest, David, had married in Virginia and settled in Ford county, Illinois, in 1859. He is now living in Missouri. Melinda became the wife of Thomas Walsh and died leaving seven children. Susannah is also deceased. She married John Weaver. Mary, who has also passed away, was the wife of Henry Weaver. Christian wedded Miss Lucy Jenkins and died in Oregon, leaving ten children. Katharine became the wife of George S. Will, of Virginia, who died in 1906, and she now resides in Hamilton, Missouri, and is the mother of seven children. George, the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the family. His mother died when he was four years of age, and his father married again, but by the second union there were no children. When Mr. Funk came to Henry county there were a few small buildings upon his land, but three years later he was able to erect a fine brick house, in which he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring April 29, 1875. He was a man of great force of character, one who held to his convictions as regards right and wrong, and one whose life commanded respect.

George Funk was about seventeen years of age when he accompanied his father on his removal to Henry county. He had attended the subscription school near his Virginia home, wherein he had received a fair education, and after coming here obtained about twenty-two days' schooling. He worked for his father on the farm until he became twenty-one, and thereafter, as he continued to live at home, was given a share of the crops as compensation for his labor. He was thrifty as well as industrious, and after the death of his father he was able to buy, in December, 1875, as the result of his savings, one hundred and sixty acres of land at fifty dollars an acre. Later, as his financial resources increased he made wise and judicious investments in other farm property, in 1881 buying eighty acres at fifty dollars an acre; in 1892, purchasing another tract of eighty acres, for which he paid fifty-eight dollars an acre; and in 1901 securing eighty acres more for fifty-five dollars an acre. The place on which he lives, on section 31, Cornwall township, is well improved with fine buildings, has recently been tiled, and is maintained under an excellent state of cultivation that derives the best results possible from the soil. In addition to raising cereals Mr. Funk

has engaged in feeding and shipping stock, and as he has devoted to this enterprise the same care and discrimination distinguishable in his purely agricultural undertakings he has found it a profitable adjunct to his business.

In Cambridge, Illinois, February 12, 1874, Mr. Funk wedded Miss Rebecca E. Funk, who was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, April 12, 1842, and is a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Shue) Funk. Three children have been born to them. Abram A., born November 23, 1874, received a good education, for he was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1894 and has since pursued many studies independently, receiving a diploma from the Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania, while he is now studying civil engineering in a correspondence school of Chicago. He is a farmer by occupation and owns eighty acres on section 31, Cornwall township, where he is living. He married Miss Carrie Hunter. Amy Aurelia married Frank S. Sears, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. Atta Viola, the third child, was born January 28, 1880, and died in October, 1881.

Mr. Funk gives unfaltering allegiance in political matters to the republican party, having supported its candidates invariably since he cast his first ballot for Ulysses S. Grant. While he is not an office seeker, he is an advocate of public improvements and especially of good schools, as was manifest in the acceptable service he rendered as a member of the board of education. He belongs to the Congregational church, and in endeavoring to live up to its teachings he manifests those sterling traits of manhood which ever command confidence and awaken regard and is therefore well worthy of the esteem uniformly accorded him.

---

### WILLIAM CHARLET.

William Charlet, whose three hundred and twenty acres of rich farming land in Kewanee township attest his prosperity and substantial position in life, was born July 1, 1865, in that township, a son of William and Amelia (Ballieu) Charlet. The father was born in Brandenburg, Prussia, Germany, December 13, 1834, and there learned the trade of a weaver and worked at it. In 1856 he borrowed the money for his passage to America, having heard of the opportunities offered in Illinois and having for his destination Kewanee. After his arrival here he discovered that his hopes had been raised too high but he secured employment with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and, saving his money, was soon able to buy twenty acres of land at less than twenty dollars per acre, and this initial purchase is a part of his present homestead of one hundred and forty acres. As soon as he secured his land he began farming and has continued the work ever since. He has prospered financially, and has filled the offices of school director and road commissioner. On April 21, 1859, he married Amelia Ballieu, who was born in July, 1836, in Germany, and came to the United States with her parents in 1854. She is a daughter of Frederick and Fredericka Ballieu. Her father was a stone-mason by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Charlet had three children, two of whom survive: William, Jr., of this review; and Emeline, at home.



MRS GEORGE FUNK



William Charlet, Jr., has devoted his life to farming and in 1894 bought his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres. All of his efforts have been on his own property with the exception of one year spent on his father's farm. His land is very fertile and in good condition and he is reaping a good return on his investment.

On April 4, 1893, Mr. Charlet married Otilie Furst, who was born in Kewanee, and they have four living children: Walter, Ruth, Harry and Clarence. Mr. Charlet has been school director for twelve years and is much interested in educational matters. He is a member of the Evangelical church, with which his father is also connected, and in which he was a Sunday-school teacher for many years. William Charlet, Jr., is an excellent example of the second generation of German emigrants. With the sturdy German characteristics he combines the pluck and progressive spirit of his own country and as a result he is classed among the successful farmers of his locality, and a man to be considered when public affairs are under discussion.

---

#### WILLIAM HARBAUGH.

Various interests in recent years have claimed the time and energies of William Harbaugh, who is now a notary public of Geneseo. Numbered among Ohio's native sons, he was born in Wayne county, November 17, 1844. The family is of German lineage, although representatives of the name went from the fatherland to England before coming to America. From colonial days, however, the family has been founded in the United States. The great-grandfather, Fred Harbaugh, was born in Pennsylvania and died in Ohio. His wife was Betsey Spinks, a native of England. John Harbaugh, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Maryland in 1773 and died in Ohio in 1854 at the venerable age of eighty-one years. He married Elizabeth Rickel, a daughter of John and Catharine (Blucher) Rickel, the latter a sister of General Blucher. Mr. and Mrs. John Harbaugh were the parents of five sons and two daughters: Michael; John R.; Joseph; George; Adam; Mrs. Sarah Miller; and Catharine, who became the wife of Michael Rickel. Of this number John R. Harbaugh was the father of William Harbaugh. His birth occurred in Pennsylvania and in early manhood he wedded Eliza Byers, also a native of that state. Her father, Daniel Byers, was likewise born in Pennsylvania and he, too, was of German lineage. He was born in 1790, followed farming as his life work and died at an old age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Stambaugh, was born in Pennsylvania in 1799 and also traveled far on life's journey. Their children were John; Elias; Jacob; David; Daniel; Mary, the wife of George Bubach; Sarah, the wife of Jacob Clouse; Eliza, who became the wife of John R. Harbaugh; and Anna, deceased. The latter married William Painter, who had one daughter, Anna, the wife of Wellington Mertz, of Vandalia, Illinois.

In early manhood John R. Harbaugh learned and followed the carpenter's trade, but afterward turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. The year 1850 witnessed his arrival in Bureau county, Illinois, and in 1852 he came

to Henry county, settling in Phenix township, where he became the owner of two hundred and twenty-five acres of land, which he improved and upon which he reared his family. At the time of the Civil war he removed to Geneseo, where his death occurred in 1892, when he was seventy-seven years of age, his birth having occurred in 1815. His wife, who was born in 1818, also died at the age of seventy-seven years, passing away in 1895. They were consistent and devoted members of the Methodist church and Mr. Harbaugh was active and influential in community affairs, giving his aid and influence at all times for general progress and improvement. He served as postmaster and was also justice of the peace for several years, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. Unto him and his wife were born four sons and four daughters: Mary, the wife of J. J. Raser of Canon City, Colorado, had three children, one who died in infancy; Clark, residing in Denver, Colorado; and Mrs. Mary Taylor, of Seattle, Washington. George, who was a soldier of the Civil war and died at the age of twenty-nine years, married Miss Lizzie Patton and had one child, who is deceased. William is next in order of birth. Melissa married George Raser and is now deceased. Frank, whose home is in Waterloo, Iowa, married Miss Rebecca Luther and has three children, Grace, Ina and John Chase. Elizabeth, who is the widow of William Herman and lives in Los Angeles, California, had two children, Eliza, deceased; and Frank, who resides in Los Angeles. Harriet died at the age of eight years. One child died in infancy.

In taking up the personal history of William Harbaugh we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this part of the state. He was but six years of age when his parents removed to Bureau county, Illinois, and he has lived continuously in Henry county since the spring of 1852, or for a period of fifty-seven years. He was reared upon the home farm and the winter months were devoted to the acquirement of an education in the district schools and the farm work in the summer seasons. In August, 1862, when not yet eighteen years of age, he responded to the country's call for aid and joined the Union army as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as a private for almost three years. He proved his loyalty on many a hotly contested battle field, participating in the engagements of Richmond, Kentucky, Knoxville, Tennessee, Bean Station, Calhoun, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, New Hope Church, Utoy Creek, and all of the movements of the army at the Atlanta campaign. He was also at Jonesboro, Columbia, Franklin and Nashville, and with his command proceeded to North Carolina, where he took part in the battles of Wilmington and Fort Anderson. He made a most creditable military record while at the front, never faltering in the performance of any duty whether on the lonely picket line or on the firing line.

When the war was over Mr. Harbaugh returned home and conducted a grocery and dry-goods store in company with I. S. Felger from the fall of 1865 until December, 1879. In 1880 he engaged in the sporting goods and poultry business, in which he continued for eight years, and later he was appointed postmaster of Geneseo under Benjamin Harrison's administration and served from 1890 until 1894. Since that time he has followed various pursuits. For the past twelve years he has been deputy collector of the township and the city

of Geneseo and for four years has been notary public. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree and his official record is one over which there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

On the 17th of November, 1867, Mr. Harbaugh was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Luther, a daughter of George and Salome (Schock) Luther, and a native of Des Plaines, Illinois. Her parents were natives of Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, and coming to America settled at Des Plaines, but afterward took up their abode in Yorktown township, Henry county, and about 1860 became residents of Geneseo, where their last days were passed. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Harbaugh was Jacob J. Luther, who married Louisa Saunders. They are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The maternal grandfather was Adam Schock, who served in the German war of 1848. He died in Chicago at a very advanced age. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. George Luther were the following children: Louisa, who married J. S. Felger, of Geneseo; Caroline, who is the wife of Samuel Morrow; Rebecca, the wife of Frank Harbaugh, who resides in Waterloo, Iowa; David, deceased; Susan, who married J. W. Holden, and lives in Shenandoah, Iowa; and Mrs. Harbaugh.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh has been blessed with one daughter, Bernice, who is now the wife of William C. Voss mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh attend the Methodist church and he belongs to several fraternal organizations, including Winnebago Tribe, No. 334, I. O. R. M., and E. J. Jenkins Post, No. 452, G. A. R., in both of which he was a charter member. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and his record as a public official and private citizen is most creditable, while his labors have been of essential value to the community.

---

### HON. WILLIAM J. MCGUIRE.

Conspicuous among Kewanee's progressive citizens is the Hon. William J. McGuire, a representative from Henry county to the state legislature and a man whom many believe is only upon the threshold of his political career. He was born in Lee county, Illinois, November 14, 1868, in the same house in which his mother first saw the light of day. His parents were Charles and Mary (Dolan) McGuire, the father having been born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1845. He came west to Illinois sometime in the '50s and took up railroad engineering, which he followed until a few years before his death, which occurred in Kewanee, July 23, 1907, his age being sixty-two years. The mother of our subject was the daughter of William Dolan, one of Lee county's first settlers. In 1872 this estimable woman passed on to her reward.

William J. McGuire received his education in Lamoville, Bureau county, Illinois, and there learned the barber's trade, which he followed for several years. He ultimately abandoned this and from 1893 to 1897 held the position of supervisor in the Home for the Feeble Minded at Lincoln, Illinois. In 1902 he came to Kewanee, where for four years he engaged in the wholesale liquor business. He became very well known in the city and in the fall of 1906 was

elected on the democratic ticket as state representative to the legislature from the thirty-seventh district. He was the first nominated by the direct vote of the people at the primaries. He was elected by a large majority, much support being given by the republicans. In 1908 he was reelected, a signal victory, since for many years no man in this district has held the office of representative for two successive terms.

On June 2, 1896, Mr. McGuire was married to Miss Catherine Hutter, of Lincoln, Illinois, their union being celebrated in Chicago. Her father was one of the first business men of Lincoln. To Mr. and Mrs. McGuire have been born three children: Florence, aged twelve years, William C., aged ten, and Isabelle, aged eight, all of whom are at school.

Mr. McGuire is Catholic in faith and holds membership in the Church of the Visitation. His fraternal relations extend to the Elks, the Eagles, the Foresters and the Red Men. He is at present serving on the finance committee of the state organization of the first named society and is past worthy president of the second. He has the gift of easily making friends, of whom he possesses a host in this locality. He is everywhere known as a liberal minded man and well deserves the public trust which the voters of Henry county have given into his keeping.

---

#### EDWARD E. DARIN.

Edward E. Darin, an enterprising and prosperous agriculturist and stockman of Phenix township, makes his home on a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty-six acres on section 26 and is likewise the owner of another tract of one hundred and twenty-one acres on the same section. It was on the latter farm that his birth occurred, his natal day being September 4, 1861. His parents were John Jackson and Eleanor (Clarke) Darin.

Edward E. Darin was reared to manhood on the old homestead farm and attended the common schools in pursuit of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. His father allowed him to keep the money which he earned in his youthful days and when twenty years of age gave him the use of a field and told him he might have the proceeds of the crop. In this way he accumulated capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm of his own and in 1882 he came into possession of his present place of one hundred and sixty-six acres on section 26, Phenix township, paying about fifty-four dollars per acre for the land. He has erected thereon a modern and substantial residence, as well as good barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and altogether has a highly improved and well developed farm, the fields annually yielding bounteous harvests of golden grain. In addition to the cultivation of cereals he is also engaged in the raising, feeding and shipping of stock and in both branches of his business has won a gratifying and well merited degree of success. He also owns the old homestead place of one hundred and twenty-one acres on which he was reared, having purchased the property in 1905 for one hundred and fifty-two dollars an acre. This was the first farm in

Henry county that sold for as high a price as one hundred and fifty dollars an acre.

On the 8th of March, 1893, in Geneseo township, Mr. Darin was united in marriage to Miss Nettie M. Ward, who was born near Geneseo. Her parents, Thomas and Mary (Nuttyscombe) Ward, are still residents of Phenix township. Mr. and Mrs. Darin now have three children, namely: Harold Avery, born July 27, 1894; Mary Eleanor, whose birth occurred May 17, 1897; and John Ward, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 16th of June, 1903.

Politically Mr. Darin is a stanch advocate of the principles of the republican party. He has served as collector for two terms but has not been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. Fraternally he is identified with Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 40, also Mystic Workers of the World. Both he and his wife are well known and highly esteemed throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives and the number of their friends has steadily increased as the circle of their acquaintances has widened.

---

#### ERIC WINROOT.

Despite the fact of advancing years, Eric Winroot is still actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in which he has won so pronounced a success in the years, now numbering almost three decades, he has followed that vocation in the vicinity of Bishop Hill. He was born in Helsingland, Sweden, June 11, 1843. His father, Peter Peterson, died in his native land when his son was only four years old, and six years later, when he was ten years of age, Eric Winroot was deprived of a mother's care and love. She bore the maiden name of Britta Ericson. Nevertheless he received a fair education in the public schools of his native land and at the age of twenty-one deemed that he was able and prepared to come to America and make the fortune which compatriots, who had emigrated here, said lay in this land.

In July, 1866, he located at Bishop Hill, where he found employment at farm work until 1879. In that year he took an eight year lease upon eighty-two acres of land lying in the vicinity of the village and two years later bought a tract of one hundred and sixty acres situated about three miles west of the town. It was improved at the time of purchase, but the buildings were of the poorest character. In 1886 Mr. Peterson erected a fine barn with forty-two by thirty-eight feet floor space, and about ten years ago greatly enlarged and improved the house, thus affording tangible evidence of the good fortune which accompanied his labors. When he first engaged in farming he raised broom corn quite extensively, but of recent years has given his attention principally to corn and oats. He has also found the stock business a profitable adjunct to his agricultural interests, each year raising about thirty head of cattle for the market and half a hundred hogs. For a few years he also bred some colts, but he was not satisfied with his returns in that undertaking and has forsaken it. During the season of 1909 he rented some of his land to others, and is con-

templating leasing the whole of his place, while he retires from the strenuous life that has been his for years and takes up his residence in some town. None more than he is deserving of a respite from toil.

At Cambridge, Illinois, February 23, 1871, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Winroot and Miss Caroline Lindstrom, a daughter of Eric Lindstrom, who is a prominent farmer of Weller township. Nine children have been born to the couple: Effie, who is the eldest of the family; Alice, who became the wife of Victor Bergland; Mabel, who married Frank Hagg; Henry, who is at home; Frances, who is the wife of Oscar Abrahamson; and Eunice, Claude and Ruby, who are unmarried. Hattie, the only member of the family who has passed away, died in 1881, at the age of four years.

Mr. Winroot has always exhibited an independence in his political views, voting for men irrespective of party affiliation. On three occasions he cast his ballot for Bryan, although previously he had supported the presidential candidate recommended by the republican party. While not an office seeker, he has taken some part in local affairs, serving for nine years as school director and ever evincing a public spirit in his attitude toward measures calculated to promote public welfare. Formerly he was connected fraternally with the A. O. U. W., but of late years he relinquished his lodge affiliations. He is well known, however, and is recognized as a man who deserves to be included among the strong characters of his locality.

---

#### GEORGE S. GERMAN.

George S. German, who has lived retired in Kewanee since 1894, has thus for the past fifteen years enjoyed the fruits of his former toil as an agriculturist. His birth occurred in Brown county, Ohio, on the 29th of April, 1837. His father, David German, who was likewise a native of that county, took up his abode in Peoria county, Illinois, in 1852, while two years later he came to Henry county, locating in Wethersfield township. He purchased a farm two and three-quarters miles southeast of Kewanee and there carried on his agricultural interests until about 1884, when he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to Kewanee, where his remaining days were spent. His demise occurred in October, 1896, when he had attained the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. It was in Brown county, Ohio, that he wedded Miss Martha Jane Newlan, a native of Shaker, Lebanon county, Ohio. She passed away in Kewanee in September, 1893, when seventy-six years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. David German were born seven children, as follows: Mary Jane, who died about 1859; George S., of this review; Silas, who makes his home in Iowa; Harriet, the wife of Albert Johnson, of Kewanee; William and John, both of whom are residents of Sidney, Iowa; and Josephine, who passed away in Kewanee in 1901.

George S. German, who acquired his education in the district schools of his native county, was a youth of seventeen when he came to Henry county with his parents. He continued to assist his father in the work of the home farm

until he had attained his majority and afterward devoted his attention to the cultivation of rented land in Wethersfield township for three years. On the expiration of that period, in 1862, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union army, becoming a member of Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for about fourteen months. After returning from the war he took up his abode in Burns township, Henry county, Illinois, and purchased land at intervals until his holdings aggregated three hundred and twenty acres—one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, Burns township, eighty acres on section 8 of the same township and eighty acres in Cornwall township. On the 10th of March, 1867, he established his home on the farm in Burns township, where he erected new buildings, put up fences, planted an orchard and also made various other improvements. There he carried on his agricultural interests energetically and successfully until the 16th of December, 1894, since which date he has lived retired in an attractive residence which he purchased at No. 402 North East street in Kewanee.

On the 20th of January, 1860, in Peoria, Mr. German was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ella Carl, a daughter of Carey and Jane (West) Carl, who were natives of Pennsylvania and came to Illinois at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. German have one son, George D., who is mentioned on another page of this work.

Politically Mr. German is a stanch republican, but he has not desired office as a reward for his party fealty. He belongs to Julius Pratt Post, G. A. R., at Kewanee and is also a devoted member of the First Methodist Episcopal church in that city. He has made his home in this county for fifty-five years and is widely and favorably known within its borders, his many sterling traits of character having won him the warm regard and stanch friendship of those with whom he has come in contact.

---

#### WILLIAM P. WOLF.

In William P. Wolf Henry county has a representative of its best agricultural interests, for as farmer, stockman and poultry raiser he has achieved a success which places him among the more prominent in a prosperous community. He owns the northwest quarter of section 32, Annawan township, and the neat, attractive appearance of his fields together with the condition of his buildings, is a visible evidence of his skill, his thrift and his good management. The farm on which he lives was also his birthplace and was bought by his grandfather, George Wolf, Sr., about 1853. He was born in Pennsylvania, April 1, 1782, and there in 1804, married Miss Sarah Enslow, also a native of the Keystone state, where her birth occurred in the year 1787. In the early '50s the couple came to Henry county, Illinois, where Mr. Wolf purchased 160 acres in Annawan township, the farm now occupied by his grandson, and thereon spent the remainder of his years. His son George, the father of W. P. Wolf was born in Knox county, Ohio, January 31, 1828, and was a man grown, although he had not married, when his parents came to this township. He lived with them until

their death and then, buying the other heirs, became the sole owner of the homestead. He engaged in farming with fair success and was well and favorably known in his locality, a man who was sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends, when on the 14th of September, 1889, he was called to his final rest. In politics he was a democrat, but never sought office in recognition of party fealty.

After locating in Henry county, George Wolf, Jr., wedded Miss Barbara Heaps, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and was a year old when her parents came to Illinois. They located in Adams county, later removed to Rock county, Wisconsin, and then, returning to Illinois, established their home in Henry county, near Annawan, where Mr. Heaps secured a tract of land. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf were the parents of three children, of whom William P., of this review, is the oldest. Of the other two, Sarah died March 1, 1887; and Hiram M., who married Marcia Camery, is now living near Winfield, Kansas. Mrs. Wolf is still living at the advanced age of seventy-two years, and makes her home in Kewanee.

William P. Wolf was born on the farm where he now lives, September 13, 1857. When of suitable age he became a pupil in the district school, receiving a fair education which was well supplemented by the practical training he obtained while he assisted his father in his work. At the age of twenty-one he assumed all the responsibility of operating the home place, and it has remained his care to the present. He inherited eighty acres on the death of his father, and then by purchase from the other heirs added eighty acres more, so that his farm is identical with that owned by his grandfather. Its soil is very fertile and being maintained under a high state of cultivation, makes generous returns for the labor expended upon it. In addition to growing cereals Mr. Wolf has engaged in breeding and raising cattle, hogs and poultry, making a specialty of pure blooded Poland China hogs and Plymouth Rock chickens, which command a good price upon the market. In none of his undertakings has he spared thought or labor, but profiting by the discoveries of science and utilizing industriously every means at hand for advancing in his business he has gained a conspicuous success in his operations and is numbered among the substantial citizens of Annawan township.

In Kewanee, February 8, 1899, Mr. Wolf was united in marriage to Miss Anna C. Eack, of that city. She was born, however, in Sweden and was a mere child when her parents, Peter and Anna G. (Tehunberg) Eack came to America. They located in Kewanee, where the father died shortly after his arrival, leaving his widow to rear their four small children. Not only did Mrs. Eack keep the family together but she gave them all a good education, and now has the satisfaction of knowing that they are all well established in life. She is still living in Kewanee, at the age of seventy years.

Mrs. Wolf, who was the second of the children born to her parents, received a good education, having been graduated from the Kewanee high school with the class of 1884. Thereupon she engaged in teaching and later attended the State Normal School at Normal, Illinois. Upon leaving that institution she was made principal of the Wallace high school, at Sterling, Illinois, a position she held for two years, and then returned to the high school in Kewanee, where she taught

mathematics until a short time before her marriage when she resigned her position. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf have two children; Dorothy Esther, who was born July 23, 1900; and Anice Emma, who was born June 10, 1903.

In politics Mr. Wolf gives allegiance to no party, preferring to cast his ballot for the candidate he believes most worthy of the people's confidence. He is never remiss in his duties of citizenship, but he has never aspired to public office, as his is a nature which enjoys a quiet life rather than the notoriety that comes to one who is constantly before the public gaze as an official. In religious matters he gives his support to the United Brethren church at Fair View, in which he has served as steward, while his wife is equally consistent in her allegiance to the Episcopal church at Kewanee, and both are well known and highly esteemed as persons of genuine worth, whose lives exemplify the true spirit of Christianity.

---

### GEORGE H. VOGLER.

George H. Vogler, an enterprising and progressive farmer and stock raiser of Munson township, was born in Hampden township, Rock Island county, Illinois, on the 12th of November, 1867, a son of George and Agnes (Lewis) Vogler. The parents were both natives of Germany and came to America as young people, becoming acquainted with each other in Davenport, Iowa, where they were united in marriage. They then took up their abode in Rock Island county, where the father was identified with the cooperage business for several years, splitting his own timber for staves. Subsequently he purchased property in that township and although a poor man when he came to this country, as the years passed he prospered and became one of the well-to-do residents of the community in which he resided. He was a democrat in his political views, although not an office-seeker, was reared in the faith of the Catholic church and was a gentleman of many excellent traits of character. He passed away at Rapids City, Rock Island county, Illinois, while his wife survived him a few years. In their family were eight children, of which our subject was the fifth in order of birth, the others being: Peter, who now resides in Geneseo; Elizabeth, the wife of George Pages, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Gertrude, who married Jacob Schieb and makes her home at Rapids City, Illinois; Mary, the wife of John Yost, of Rapids City; Charles and William, twins, the former living in Davenport and the latter in East Moline; and Catharine, the wife of Al Adams, of Rapids City.

George H. Vogler spent the years of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof in Rock Island county, and during this period enjoyed but limited educational advantages, the greater part of his time being devoted to assisting his father. At the early age of sixteen he began working on his own account in the mines, at first in the capacity of mule driver and later as miner. He was connected with this line of activity for sixteen years, and during that time received very fair wages. It was while acting in the capacity of miner in Fulton county, Illinois, that he met and was married to Miss Anna Davison, of that county. She is a native of Durham county, England, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilson) Davison, with whom she came to the United States in

1881 when ten years of age, the family locating in Rapids City, Illinois, where she first met Mr. Vogler. Later the family removed to Fulton county, Illinois, where she was united in marriage on the 15th of May, 1889.

Mr. Vogler continued to engage as a miner until the year 1896, when he took up agricultural pursuits in the capacity of a renter, operating a farm in Osco township for about ten years. Desiring, however, that his efforts should more directly benefit himself, during that period he labored diligently and carefully saved his money, being imbued with the desire to one day own a farm of his own. When he had accumulated sufficient capital with which to gratify this desire he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, consisting of one hundred and sixty-three acres on sections 4 and 9, Munson township, the property coming into his possession in 1907. Here he carries on general farming in connection with which he devotes considerable time to stock raising, and he is enjoying a substantial income from the fact that both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving profitable.

As the years passed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vogler was blessed with five children, namely: Agnes Muriel, Fern Elizabeth, John Alvan, Hershel Harold and Florence Lucile. Mr. Vogler has been a stalwart supporter of republican principles since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but is not an office seeker, although he does all in his power to further the influence of the party throughout the community. In fraternal relations he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Canton, Illinois, and is in hearty sympathy with the principles that underlie that organization. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor. Starting out in life for himself empty-handed, at an early age, he has made steady progress and as the years have gone by he has achieved a measure of success which is most creditable. Moreover his business methods have ever been honorable and reliable, winning for him the respect and good will of his fellow-men.

---

### EDWARD S. WHITING.

Edward S. Whiting, a highly respected citizen of Kewanee, now living retired, was born in Chicopee, Massachusetts, June 17, 1844. His father, Seth Whiting, a native of Salem, Massachusetts, followed the westward tide of civilization and in 1858 located with his family in the town of Wethersfield, Illinois. He engaged in farming until his retirement in 1876, when he removed to Kewanee and took up his residence at the corner of Chestnut and First streets, the present site of the new postoffice. Here he lived up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1889, when he was eighty-six years of age. The mother of our subject, Abigail (Chapin) Whiting, was also born at Chicopee, Massachusetts, her father being Zenus Chapin, a contractor.

Edward S. Whiting received his earlier instruction in Chicopee and finished in the high school of Kewanee. He later attended the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago, and upon his graduation therefrom received high honors in mathematics out of a class of thirty-two. As the only son in the family the charge

of his father's farm near Wethersfield naturally devolved upon his shoulders and there he made his home until his marriage in 1870, his father retiring soon after his assumption of the responsibility. In 1877 he leased the land and, coming to Kewanee, engaged in the implement business at the corner of Chestnut and Third streets. That this venture was destined for successful fruition is fully demonstrated by the fact that he continued in it for a period of twenty-two years and saw it grow into one of the city's substantial concerns. In the spring of 1902 he retired from active life. Mr. Whiting is an extensive property owner, having several hundred acres of land in Kewanee and Wethersfield townships, farms in Kansas and Nebraska, and in Kewanee owns and is interested in several business blocks and a large number of dwellings. He is also a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of the city.

In January, 1870, Mr. Whiting married Miss Charlotte A. Mason, of Buda, Illinois. She is the daughter of Levi Mason, a farmer who for a number of years lived in Buda and died in 1898. She shares fully in her husband's interests and like him is active in the social and benevolent affairs of the First Congregational church with which they are associated.

Mr. Whiting is a supporter of the republican party and is also a strong advocate of prohibition, to the furtherance of which he has given efficient service. He is a deacon in the First Congregational church and a leading spirit in all its enterprises. In the Sunday school he is also a valued teacher and he contributed liberally to the erection of the new church some years ago as well as to that of the new building of the Young Men's Christian Association. He was the founder of the Whiting school, section 15, Wetherfield township, and one of its directors until he came to Kewanee. Any measure likely to upbuild and benefit the community is sure of the support of this estimable and public-spirited citizen.

---

#### WALTER A. FELL.

Walter A. Fell, who devotes his time and energies to the operation of his fine farm of two hundred acres on sections 5 and 8, Burns township, is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Cornwall township on the 20th of July, 1863. His father, James Fell, who was born in Scotland on the 22d of May, 1832, crossed the Atlantic to the United States when a young man of twenty years and made his way at once to Elmira, Stark county, Illinois, there residing for one year. At the end of that time he came to Cornwall township, Henry county, where he purchased land and later bought a farm of eighty acres, giving his attention to its cultivation until 1867. In that year he took up his abode in Burns township, where he continued to reside until about 1888, when he removed to Cambridge and there spent his remaining days. He passed away on the 19th of January, 1903, and the community thus lost one of its most substantial and respected citizens. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Harriett Campbell, whose birth occurred in Ohio on the 12th of January, 1840, and who came to this county with her parents in 1853, the family home being established in Cornwall township.

Walter A. Fell obtained his early education in the district schools of Burns township and afterward continued his studies in Elliott's Business College at Burlington and also in Duncan's Business College at Davenport, Iowa. After putting aside his text-books he worked on his father's farm until the time of his marriage and following that important event in his life he gave his attention to the operation of a rented farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 5, Burns township, until February, 1902. In that month he took up his abode on a tract of two hundred acres in Monroe county, Missouri, which he had purchased in 1901, and there successfully carried on his farming interests until 1905, when he disposed of the property and returned to this county. He then bought the old home place of two hundred acres on sections 5 and 8, Burns township, in the further cultivation and improvement of which he has since been actively engaged, having remodeled the buildings and also put up new fences. In addition to the raising of cereals he makes a specialty of thoroughbred Duroc hogs for breeding purposes and in both branches of his business has won a gratifying measure of success. He is likewise a stockholder in the Burns Mutual Telephone Company.

On the 15th of March, 1893, in Burns township, Mr. Fell was joined in wedlock to Miss Sarah Fesler, a daughter of George Fesler of that place. They now have four children, as follows: Fannie, a maiden of fifteen, who is at home; Bertha and Mabel, who are thirteen and ten years of age respectively and are attending school; and Sadie, who is one year old.

Politically Mr. Fell is a staunch advocate of the republican party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. He has capably served as justice of the peace for two years and has been a school director for three terms. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to the blue lodge at Paris, Missouri, and the chapter in Kewanee. Almost his entire life has been passed in this locality and his fellow townsmen know that his career has been characterized by fidelity to duty and by honor in all his relations with his fellowmen.

---

#### EDWARD HUNT.

Illinois owes much to the pioneers who made possible existing conditions through their bravery, endurance and thrifty labor. Through their efforts the wild lands were developed, roads built and towns settled, so that the present generation is under heavy obligation to the early settlers. One of the families intimately associated with the early history of Henry county is that bearing the name of Hunt, and one of its prosperous representatives today is Edward Hunt, of Kewanee township. He was born one mile east of this city, September 29, 1852, at a time when there were only three houses on the present site of Kewanee. His parents were Lawrence and Bridget (Shortell) Hunt.

Lawrence Hunt was born in County Carlow, Ireland, in 1824, and was there married before he came to the United States in 1848. Upon his arrival in this country he went to Philadelphia, where he remained several years. After coming to Illinois, he found employment as foreman on the construction work of the

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and worked from Mendota to Galesburg, remaining with this company until the completion of the road. Leaving railroad work, he bought the present farm of his son Edward, in 1850, and settled upon it. This property consisted of two hundred and thirty acres of government land, which he farmed and put in excellent condition. At the time he located in Henry county, the country was in an unsettled condition and he had to haul his grain to Chicago with oxen and weeks were consumed in making the round trip. Working hard and saving, Lawrence Hunt became a man of means and was honored by his neighbors by election to the office of school director for twenty years. His father was a stone-mason and not only laid the foundation of the first church built in Wethersfield, but also of many of the older houses in his part of the county. There were four children in the family of Lawrence Hunt and wife, namely: Edward, of this review; Mary, who married P. M. Lynch, a farmer of Peoria county; Henry, who died at the age of thirty; and Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-eight years. The last named was owner and editor of the Kewanee Star for years, and while he was thus engaged, the school at the cross-roads near the farm was named Huntsville. The mother died in April, 1897, and the father in July, 1898.

Edward Hunt received a good country-school education and during the summer months he helped his father on the farm, thus receiving his early training in agricultural work. In the early '80s he left the farm and for eight years conducted a grocery store in Kewanee, but the soil calling to him, he sold his interests there and returned to the farm. At present he is profitably engaged in operating his one hundred and fifty acre farm, which is now one of the most productive in Kewanee township, owing to his care and good management. For six years Mr. Hunt has been school director and for fifteen years has been one of the election judges. For some years he has been a correspondent for various newspapers and is a man well informed upon current events. His fraternal affiliations are with the Knights of Columbus. The family are all members of the Catholic church.

In 1885, Mr. Hunt married Mary Jane Cullen, a daughter of Michael and Rebecca R. Cullen, farming people. Her father died in 1893 but her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have had three children, as follows: Vincent Elroy, who is a farmer, school teacher and correspondent for the Star-Courier; Frances Pearl and Lawrence Cullen, who are both at home.

---

### JOHN F. HOHENBOKEN.

Prominent among the farmers and stockmen of Colona township, is John F. Hohenboken, one of the native sons of Henry county, who was born October 14, 1875. His parents are George and Caroline (Firch) Hohenboken, formerly a prominent family of Edford township, where the father was a successful and progressive agriculturist for some years. He has now, however, given up active farming and with his wife is living in retirement in Geneseo.

John F. Hohenboken was reared at home, receiving practical preparation for his life's work through the assistance he rendered in the cultivation of the paternal farm, for he assumed some of the lighter responsibilities in his early youth. He received a fair education in the district schools of his locality, later attending the academy at Geneseo. When about eighteen years of age he started out in life for himself, taking up his residence upon the place which is still his home. It is a fine tract, three hundred and twenty acres in extent, on which Mr. Hohenboken engages in diversified farming, while part of it is excellently adapted to grazing purposes. He gives considerable attention to the raising of fine cattle and other stock, but it is to the cultivation of the soil that he directs his main attention. Progressive in his ideas, he has made a careful study of the subject of crop rotation and the means of increasing or of preserving the productiveness of the fields. His is a well improved farm and presents a most inviting aspect to the man who should chance to pass by, for the house and barns are set in a large grove of maple trees, whose generous shade enhance the architectural beauties of the buildings.

It was on the 12th of December, 1899, that Mr. Hohenboken was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Gernant, a daughter of Adam and Mary (Frail) Gernant. The father was a native of Germany, but the mother was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, where her parents were a prominent pioneer family. For years Mr. Gernant was a man prominent in the agricultural circles of Edford township, but now he has given up the arduous duties of the life and is living in retirement in Geneseo. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hohenboken, Bernice M., the eldest, died in infancy. The others are Vernon A., Mahlon J., Ruby C. and Mildred A.

Mr. Hohenboken is a republican in politics, and, being interested in all questions which are before the people today, keeps well informed upon national issues. As township road commissioner and as a member of the district board of education, to which he still belongs, he has rendered the people of Colona township very efficient service during a long period. A man of great public spirit, he is ever active in advocating the increase of substantial improvements, being especially concerned for good schools and good roads, but never failing to exert his influence in behalf of a steady and healthy progress, which will contribute to the public good. He and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church and are liberal in its support.

---

### JOHN WESLEY WITHROW.

In the history of the residents of Henry county to whom success in life has come as the reward of persistent and earnest labor and, who, because of their former activity in business affairs, are now enabled to live retired, mention should be made of John Wesley Withrow, who was formerly connected with farming interests, but now makes his home in Geneseo, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.



MR. AND MRS. J. W. WITHROW



When central and northern Illinois was still largely a pioneer district, his birth occurred in White county, this state, on the 19th of October, 1834. His parents were Neely and Polly (Eveleth) Withrow, the former born near Louisville, Kentucky, and the latter in New Harmony, Pennsylvania. The Withrow family is of Irish descent. The grandfather, William Withrow, was a native of Kentucky and followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family. He married Rebecca Dagley, and both lived to an old age, rearing a family of eight children, namely: Neely, Samuel, Polly, Rebecca, William, John, Rachel and Charles. The maternal grandfather of John W. Withrow was a native of Pennsylvania and died in early manhood. His widow afterward joined the colony at New Harmony, Pennsylvania, and subsequently became one of the pioneer women of White county, Illinois, living near Shawneetown. She, too, however, was comparatively young when called to her final rest and at her death left five children: Sylvester, Cyrenus, Mrs. Abigail Hull, Mrs. Amanda Walton and Polly. It was the last named who became the wife of Neely Withrow, who in his early boyhood had accompanied his parents on their removal from Kentucky to White county, Illinois. In 1835 he arrived in Henry county, stopping first in Red Oak Grove, near Bishop Hill, with his brother Samuel. They built a double log cabin and remained there until the fall of 1836, when they removed to Phenix township and first took up claims, while later they purchased land from the government. Neely Withrow began to improve his farm and built a house and placed some of the land under cultivation, but his death occurred there January 25, 1839, when he was not quite twenty-nine years of age. He was recognized as a man of genuine personal worth and as a public spirited citizen, and was elected the first justice of the peace in his township. His widow long survived him and reached the venerable age of eighty-six years, her birth having occurred February 12, 1806, while she died in 1892. Both Mr. and Mrs. Withrow were devout members of the Methodist church. Their children numbered four sons and a daughter: Amariah, now living in Geneseo; James, deceased; John Wesley; Lucy, who became the wife of Robert Barge and has passed away; and Neely, living in Central City, Nebraska.

John Wesley Withrow was only one year old when brought by his parents to Henry county, where he has lived continuously since 1835. He was reared in Phenix township and attended the old time subscription schools in the days when the teacher "boarded 'round." It was an old log schoolhouse, made without any nails, the logs being fastened together with pins, with a puncheon floor and seats made of split slabs. It was heated by a fireplace and the birch rod formed a terrifying feature in the matter of discipline. Later when the district schools were organized Mr. Withrow pursued his education therein. He was only five years of age at the time of his father's death, but he lived at home until he attained his majority. His mother married again, her second husband being Harvey Hickcox, by whom she had three children, two of whom died in early life, while Eunice became the wife of Asoph King and removed to Central City, Nebraska. Mr. Hickcox died November 4, 1853, when Mr. Withrow was sixteen years of age. At that time the latter was assisting in the work of the home farm and following the death of his stepfather the care of the place largely devolved upon him. Prior to his marriage he purchased forty acres of land and after his marriage

he rented land for a time and later made other purchases, adding to his holdings as opportunity offered until he was once the owner of nine hundred and twenty acres. His first forty acres had a mortgage of four hundred dollars upon it, on which he paid twenty per cent interest in advance. Such an exorbitant rate was discouraging, but he never allowed obstacles or difficulties to bar his path and with characteristic energy set to work to make the best of his opportunities. He lived in Phenix township until 1870 and then removed to Hanna township, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits until 1893. In that year he took up his abode in Geneseo, purchasing a fine home on Palace Row. He is now living retired save for the supervision which he gives to his invested interests, which yet include six hundred acres of the valuable farming land of this part of the state.

On the 1st of January, 1860, Mr. Withrow was married to Miss Arvilla M. Allen, a daughter of Jonathan and Charlotte (Hatch) Allen. Mrs. Withrow was born in Lee county, Iowa, February 12, 1843, and her parents were natives of Jefferson county, New York. Her paternal grandfather, Jonas Allen, was likewise a native of the Empire state and always followed farming. He married Sarah Dyke and died at Iron Bluffs, Nebraska, when he had reached an advanced age. His wife passed away in Fremont, Nebraska, at the home of her son. They reared seven children, Luther, Abram, Jonathan, Gilbert, Lois, Emily and Ann Mahala.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Withrow was Jacob Hatch, a native of New York, who also followed farming. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Wilde and died in Iowa. Mr. Hatch lived to be nearly one hundred years of age and spent his last days in Utah. The children of his first marriage were Hosea, Almira, Charlotte, Polly, Anna, Leighton, Isaac, William and Lewis. Having lost his first wife, Jacob Hatch married again but had only one daughter by the second union.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen, the parents of Mrs. Withrow, were reared and married in New York and on removing westward settled first in Lee county, Iowa, but in October, 1847, came to Henry county, Illinois, taking up their abode in Phenix township. For a long period they were connected with farming interests, but at length removed to Geneseo, where Mr. Allen died in 1876 at the age of sixty-four years and his wife passed away in 1865. He held various township offices, the duties of which he discharged in a prompt and capable manner. For several years he was one of the county supervisors and served on the committee that built the jail. Unto him and his wife were born five children: Nancy Adaline, who became the wife of Charles Linnell; Mary Angeline, the wife of James Withrow; Arvilla M., the wife of John W. Withrow; Lois A., the wife of Albert A. Colbert; and Dora A., the wife of Byron Coe.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Withrow has been blessed with nine children. Francis O., the eldest, married Ella E. Kerr, and they have one son, Howard H., who married Mabel Wilkinson. Ira W., the second of the family, married Lucina Fuller, and they have three children, Roy W., Hazel G. and Claude F. Ida E. is the wife of Sherman W. Shafer and the mother of four children, Minnie B., John W.; Mary A. and Donald E. Nina D. is the wife of Clinton F. Luther and has two children, Francis Allen and John Withrow. Effie A. married

James Dana Buck, who died in June, 1895, leaving a daughter, Hattie R. George O. married Florence May Fuller and their four children are Otis D., Ethel A., Charles and John Wesley. E. Lilburn died when a little more than a year old. Minnie Gertrude died when six months old. Raymond F., the youngest of the family, married Maude M. Schnabele.

Mr. Withrow is entitled to wear a Grand Army button from the fact that in 1865 he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served as a private and was mustered out in August, 1865. His life work has been that of a successful farmer, whose energy and carefully directed labor brought him the success that makes him one of the extensive landowners and prosperous citizens of the community. For seventy-four years he has lived in Henry county and few of its settlers have so long witnessed its growth and development. He has witnessed many changes here for the county in his boyhood days was largely an undeveloped and sparsely settled district. Today almost every acre of land is under cultivation and the county contains some of the finest farms in this great state. Mr. Withrow has lived to see many changes in the methods of farming for the old time scythe, sickle and flail have given way to the thresher, self-binder and reaper. He has witnessed also many changes in other lines of life and rejoices in what the county has accomplished as the work of improvement has been carried steadily forward. He is one of the best known citizens of this part of the state and his record is a most creditable one, indicating what may be accomplished along the lines of determined and honorable labor.

---

### JOHN WIESE.

John Wiese, now living retired in Geneseo after a long and active life as a farmer in Osco township, was born in Germany, November 7, 1842, and is a son of Marcus and Lucy (Roward) Wiese, both natives of Holstein. The father was born in 1801 and the mother in 1803, and in 1853 they came to Illinois, settling in Rock Island county, where Mr. Wiese took up farming, which he had pursued in the old country. He died in September, 1885, at the age of eighty-four, and was buried in Rock Island in the cemetery in which his wife had been laid to rest on the 14th of February, 1879. They had four children: Fred, now deceased; Henry, of Davenport; John, of this sketch; and Annie, the wife of Henry Oppendyke, of Port Byron, Rock Island county.

John Wiese received his education in the public schools of Germany and after his parents came to this country he assisted his father in the conduct of his farm in Rock Island county. In 1867 he removed to Osco township, Henry county, where he purchased a large tract of improved land, which remained his home for more than thirty years. He devoted himself assiduously to the cultivation of his fields, and in 1899 believed he was justified in relinquishing the duties of the farm and in retiring to Geneseo. Here he has since lived in a very comfortable house on North Geneseo street.

On the 26th of December, 1865, Mr. Wiese wedded Miss Elizabeth Wiegand, who was born in Germany, January 12, 1843, and is a daughter of Christoph and Charlotte Wiegand. The parents were also natives of Germany, the father having been born February 18, 1804, the mother, November 26, 1808, and they came to America in 1847. They settled in Rock Island county, Illinois, where Mr. Wiegand followed farming until his death, September 16, 1867. His wife survived until February 11, 1872, when she too passed away. They had five children, three of whom are living: Margaret, the widow of Solomon Yost, who lives in Rock Island county, Illinois; Charles, who lives in Kansas; and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Wiese. Mrs. Mary Weaver and Mrs. Catharine Goble are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiese have three children, all of whom were born in Osco township. Henry, the eldest, was born May 11, 1868, and married Miss Amelia Firch. They live in Edford township and have two children—Rosa and Roy. Lewis, born June 14, 1875, married Miss Clara Maeltzer and lives in Edford township. They also have two children—Florence and Clarence. Clara was born March 29, 1881, and is now the wife of Lander Maeltzer. They live in Osco township and have a son, Elmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiese are members of the Lutheran church, and in political affairs Mr. Wiese gives his support to the republican party. He has never sought office, however, although he is faithful in the exercise of his rights as a citizen of this nation. He and his wife have together passed through many trials and hardships, but by industry and economy they have reached a comfortable position for the remaining years of their lives, and have had the pleasure of being able to give to each of their children a good start in life, while they still retain enough to satisfy their own needs. They enjoy a respected place in the community and are surrounded by many friends.

---

### HENRY J. WIESE.

One of the farmers of Henry county whose well tilled fields bespeak prosperity, industry and up-to-date methods is Henry J. Wiese, who besides cultivating his farm raises considerable stock of high grade, for which he finds a ready market. He lives on section 24, Edford township, although his farm of two hundred and eighty-five acres is also on section 23. He was born on section 1, Osco township, May 11, 1868, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Wiegand) Wiese. The parents, who are now living in Geneseo, were of German birth and came to America with their respective parents, the father in 1852, when he was ten years of age, the mother in 1847, when she was about four years old. The two families located on farms near Port Byron, Rock Island county, where the young people became acquainted and subsequently were married. The offspring of poor people, the couple had to start life with very little of this world's goods; in fact the father had saved only enough to enable him to buy a team and rent a farm in Rock Island county. He worked hard, however, nature was propitious, his crops were good, and in a few years he was able to buy one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township, Henry county, for six thousand dollars. From 1867

until he retired from active life and went to live in Geneseo, this farm was his home, although in the four decades that the land was in his possession he doubled its acreage and made many valuable improvements. Of the three children that were born to him and his wife Henry J. Wiese is the oldest; the second son, Lewis W., married Miss Clara Maeltzer and lives in Edford township; and the daughter, Clara, married Leander Maeltzer and lives in Osco township.

As a boy Henry J. Wiese received a good education in both German and English, although he worked on the farm throughout his school period and during his vacations. He served his father for several years after he had attained his majority, until, having married, he had the natural desire to establish a home of his own. For a time he rented land of his father and subsequently bought from him the farm on which he lived and which when he disposed of it to his brother had been his home for a period of ten years. In 1901 he bought a part of the farm on which he now resides, and recently purchased what was known as the Elvin Dilenbeck farm, just across the road, also on section 23, Edford township, so that he now has two hundred and eighty-five acres. The improvements that are now to be seen on it are wholly the result of his efforts. He has erected many buildings of approved modern construction and has increased the fertility of his fields through the use of the best machinery.

On the 15th of December, 1891, was performed the ceremony that made Mr. Wiese and Miss Amelia O. Firch man and wife. Mrs. Wiese was born in Edford township May 15, 1870, and is a daughter of David and Ottilie (Oelke) Firch. The parents are of German birth and farmed for a number of years in Edford township but are now living in Geneseo. Mr. and Mrs. Wiese have had four children: John D., who was born October 8, 1892, and died April 23, 1893; Frederic A., who was born January 18, 1894, and died August 22, 1895; Rosina C. H., born January 29, 1896; and Roy H., born January 16, 1898. Rosina has finished the eighth grade in the public schools and has passed the Central examinations for the seventh grade, and is now taking up German and music.

Politically Mr. Wiese affiliates with the republican party and cast his first presidential ballot for Harrison in 1892. Although not a politician nor an office-seeker, in 1900 he was appointed census taker for Edford and Hanna townships. He and his family are members of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, whose congregation he has served as collector, treasurer and vorsteher. A hard-working and industrious man, he is also up-to-date in his methods, making a scientific study of the soil and utilizing the most modern machinery.

---

### THE KEWANEE COAL & MINING COMPANY.

In a record of the business enterprises which are factors in the substantial growth of Henry county, mention should be made of the Kewanee Coal & Mining Company, which was organized in 1900. At that time the following officers were elected: Fred Henry, president; Louis Lindberg, vice president; John Fischer, secretary and treasurer. The mine is located two and a half miles east of Kewanee. The shaft has been sunk to a depth of one hundred and ten feet and the

capacity is about four hundred tons per day. The coal is used for both steam and domestic purposes and employment is now furnished to about one hundred and fifty men. The present officers are: Ira Blake, president; John Streicher, vice president; John Fischer, secretary, treasurer and general manager. The company has been incorporated, has a paid up capital of fifty thousand dollars and has a lease on five hundred acres of flat land. Since the organization the company has mined approximately five hundred thousand tons of coal. They find a market for the output in Kewanee, the major portion of it being sold to the Kewanee branch of the National Tube Company.

---

### THE SAVINGS BANK OF KEWANEE.

The Savings Bank of Kewanee, of whose solidity there is no question, was organized in April, 1902, and established upon a safe, conservative business policy that commends it to the general patronage of the public. It is a copartnership concern, consisting of four members: John Fischer, president; Harrison E. Miner, vice president; William E. Gould, cashier; and S. D. Burge, assistant cashier. They conduct a large savings and commercial business and the liability to depositors is five hundred thousand dollars. The bank is located at the corner of Second and Tremont streets and is enjoying a constantly increasing business. This bank does the largest farm mortgage business in Illinois.

---

### FRANK LINDERT JOHNSON.

The Swedish element plays a happy as well as an important part in the citizenship of Lynn township, of which Frank Lindert Johnson is a representative, although he was born March 4, 1863, in the southern part of Andover township, this county. His parents, Swan P. and Christine Johnson, came from Sweden in their youth, their marriage being celebrated in this country. The father, alert to every opportunity, in the course of time acquired a valuable farm of six hundred and forty acres of land. Seven children were added to the home, two of whom died in infancy. George W. resides in Moline; John A. in Alexis; Ida, now Mrs. Frank A. Bengston, in Andover township; Frank L., the subject of the sketch, in Lynn township; and Herbert Julius, in Moline. Swan P. Johnson was a man alive to all that spelled progress but one who declined any public office. He was an active church member and for many years a trustee of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He died in November, 1891, and was buried at Andover, while his widow still lives in Cambridge.

Frank Lindert Johnson grew to manhood on his father's farm and received his education in the district schools. After his marriage in 1887 he took under his own management a portion of his father's large holdings, one hundred and sixty acres in extent. This has had the benefit of all the methods known to scientific agriculture and is in consequence in a high state of cultivation. He de-

votes a great deal of his attention to the raising of hogs and cattle and is an extensive feeder. In truth everything about his farm and home indicates intelligent attention.

On May 1, 1887, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Ida Bengston, a daughter of Gustus and Anna Bengston, both of whom were natives of Sweden and came here early in life. They became prosperous and were active in the affairs of the Lutheran church. Both of them are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of six children, namely: Lillian, Bert, Franklin, Walter, Irene and Marjorie, all of whom are at home. The eldest daughter teaches in the Lynn township schools, and Franklin is a student in Augustana College at Rock Island.

Mr. Johnson gives his allegiance to the republican party. He is alert to the signs of the times and an active member of society. He has the confidence of his compatriots and for a number of years has been a member of the republican central committee and a delegate to all conventions. Alive to the importance of good schools, he has quite appropriately been a member of the school board for eighteen years and for four years he has held the position of road commissioner. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his family belong to the Lutheran church of Andover, in which Mr. Johnson has filled the office of deacon. The other members of the family give generously of their time and strength to the furtherance of the cause of Christianity, Mrs. Johnson being a teacher in the Sunday school. The subject of the sketch is a man of high repute among his neighbors, progressive in all his ideas, and enjoys that degree of prosperity which comes to men of his industry and character.

---

#### ROBERT LEE ANDREWS.

One of the successful farmers and stockmen of Edford township is Robert Lee Andrews, whose farm on section 12 would consist of one hundred and sixty acres were it not for the canal that passes through it. He was born on the old Andrews homestead in Geneseo township, August 25, 1872, and is the son of James and Mary (Campbell) Andrews, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. Reared upon the paternal farm he attended the district schools, and upon the completion of the prescribed course of study went to the Collegiate Institute in Geneseo. After three years spent there he returned to his home and until he became of age gave his father the benefit of his labor. On attaining his majority he began for himself as tiller of the soil, first as a renter upon his father's land. He later came to Edford township where he purchased his present farm. Here he has engaged largely in the breeding, feeding and shipping of cattle. He has devoted himself persistently to his calling, and finds his efforts rewarded with a gratifying income.

In Geneseo, September 13, 1894, Mr. Andrews was united in marriage to Miss Dora Englebrecht of that city. She was born in Shelbyville, Minnesota, and is a daughter of Alvin and Lucinda (Shank) Englebrecht. Her mother died when she was nine years of age, but she was reared in her native place until

she was fourteen, when she came to Geneseo to make her home with an aunt, Mrs. Laura Warnsoldt, under whose care she grew to womanhood. Until the age of twelve she attended the schools of Mankato, whence she went to the state normal school, at which she prosecuted her studies for two years. Upon coming to Geneseo she entered the public school and then completed her education in the Collegiate Institute, from which she was graduated with the class of 1893. The next year was spent in teaching a county school. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Andrews: Virginia, James Cass, Susan Irene, Gracia Lovell, Robert Campbell and Catherine N. The eldest has graduated from the district schools and in the fall of 1909 entered upon a course of study in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute.

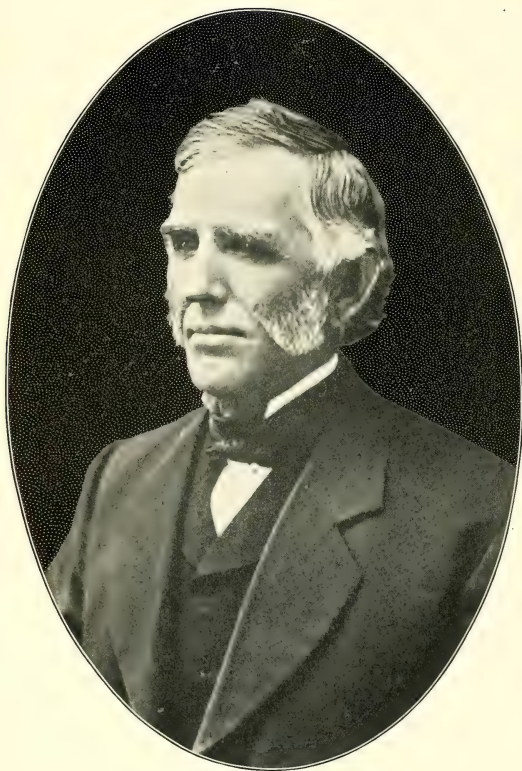
Mr. Andrews is in sympathy with the principles enunciated in the platform of the democratic party and cast his first presidential ballot for its candidate in the election of 1896. Although he has not sought for public preferment, he has willingly devoted a great deal of his time to the interests of the schools and has capably filled the post of school director. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and their two oldest children, who were reared in that faith, have been admitted into the congregation. Fraternally he enjoys pleasant relations with Camp No. 201, of the Mystic Workers, and is one of the active members of the local organization.

---

### JAMES M. ALLAN.

The life record of James M. Allan constitutes an important chapter in the annals of Henry county inasmuch as he was one of its earliest settlers and one who through the succeeding half a century took active and helpful part in the work of public progress and improvement, ever looking beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibilities of the future. His identification with public office and his active work in support of public projects made him a citizen of value and caused his death, which occurred at Geneseo, December 20, 1885, when he was seventy-one years of age, to be uniformly regretted throughout the county.

A native of Tennessee, Mr. Allan was born in Sumner county, November 23, 1814. His father, John Allan, a native of England, came to America about 1800. The family removed from Sumner county, Tennessee, to Huntsville, Alabama, and it was in the latter district that James M. Allan was reared to manhood. In the fall of 1835 when a young man of twenty-one years, he came to Illinois, spending the succeeding year in Carrollton, Greene county. In April, 1836, he arrived in Henry county, making his headquarters temporarily at Dayton. Only four years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy in this state. While there were settlements here and there, and some flourishing towns had been established, the greater part of the land comprised within the border of Illinois was still unclaimed and uncultivated, and it remained to the early settlers to plant the seeds of civilization which in due time were to bring forth good fruit. Mr. Allan entered considerable land



MAJOR JAMES M. ALLAN



in Henry county and made permanent location here. Until 1837 the district in which he established his home constituted a part of Knox county, but as the district became more thickly settled there began to grow a desire for separation from that county and Mr. Allan was chosen to go to Vandalia, then the seat of state government, to press the claims of the early settlers for that purpose. He made the trip of about two hundred and fifty miles on horseback alone, and succeeded in securing the passage of the enabling act in March, 1837. In June of that year he was one of the clerks of the election court at the first election of the county, and the commissioner elected appointed him as the first county clerk. In August of the same year he was elected circuit clerk and five days later was chosen major of the Henry county battalion and subsequently commissioned by Governor Duncan. Later he held the office of county deputy, the nearest circuit court at that time being held in Springfield. Thus he was again and again called to public office, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity, ever placing the general good before personal aggrandizement and the welfare of the community before partisanship.

In 1850 when the project for building the Chicago & Rock Island railroad was broached Mr. Allan was sent to the state legislature and was one of the most persistent workers in securing its charter. He served for several terms as supervisor and was also mayor of Geneseo. During the war he was active in raising men and money and for two years was provost marshal for the district. Later he became known as the father of the Hennepin canal scheme because of his championship of the movement to secure the establishment of that waterway, spending several winters in Washington in urging legislation in its behalf. He was a strong reasoner and a man of broad ideas who recognized the possibilities of the present and the needs of the future, and sought to utilize the former and meet the latter. He made his residence most of the time in Geneseo, although the last few years of his life were spent on his farm.

In 1839 Mr. Allan married Susanna D. Stewart, a daughter of Roderick R. Stewart, a member of the original Geneseo colony. In their family were four children, Mrs. George West, Mrs. Frances Pearsall, Mrs. Frank Williams and Sarah A., all of whom survive. Mrs. Allan passed away June 8, 1889.

In his political views Mr. Allan was a stalwart supporter of the whig party until the dissolution of that organization, when he joined the ranks of the new republican party. He was one of the most prominent and influential men of Henry county, taking an active part in all the public movements and measures that contributed to the welfare and progress of this section of the state during his day and generation.

---

#### CHARLES G. FALK.

Charles G. Falk, a well known agriculturist of Bishop Hill, was born in Jönköping, Sweden, December 15, 1855, his parents being John and Margaret Falk. In 1869 the former came to Bishop Hill, where he engaged in farming for the remainder of his life, which was brought to a close in 1905, when he was seventy-

nine years of age. His wife survived him until 1907, when she too was called to her eternal rest, at the age of eighty-seven years.

Charles G. Falk received almost all his education in the land of his birth, for he was fourteen years old when his parents came to the United States, and after his arrival here it was almost immediately necessary for him to make his own way in life. For a number of years he was employed as a farm hand, and then in 1883, rented one hundred acres of land in Weller township, belonging to the society for the poor. This has since been his home, and on it he has made all the improvements which indicate his thrift and the progressive ideas which have guided him in the pursuit of his calling. In addition to operating this tract he tills forty acres on section 16 and 17, the same township, which he owns. His industry has been a means of his success for he is a skillful worker and a good manager. In regard for his integrity, which has ever distinguished the acts of his life, his fellow citizens have bestowed upon him several marks of their approval and they are unfailing in according to him their good will.

At his home, February 4, 1886, Mr. Falk wedded Miss Olive Ericson, a daughter of Olaf Ericson. Eleven children have been born to the couple; all are living and range in age from twenty-two to four years. They are Frances Esther, Herbert Charles, August Elsworth, Margot, Minnie Olive, Wallace John, Blanch Lillian, Dewey Wilmokt, Alice Irene, Robert Vivian, and Elizabeth. The eldest is the wife of Leonard Spets; the others are all at home.

Since he has been admitted to citizenship in this republic and has been able to exercise his right of franchise, Mr. Falk has given his support in political matters invariably to the democratic party and has played no inconsiderable part in local affairs. For the past two terms, of two years each, he has been supervisor of the township, while for the last twenty years and more he has been school director. Also he is president of the board of directors of the Voluntary Donative Society, an organization for the benefit of the poor, which owns the farm on which he resides. Fraternally he enjoys pleasant relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Royal Neighbors.

---

### JOHN M. PETTITT.

John M. Pettitt, one of Kewanee's well known merchants, was born in Annawan township, Henry county, January 6, 1860, of British stock. His father, Samuel Pettitt, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, January 7, 1821. When a young man he decided to make America his future home and soon after landing on our shores came to Henry county, Illinois, where he remained for many years. Upon his retirement from farming in 1899, he removed to Kewanee, where he spent the rest of his life. The mother of our subject, Sophronia (Troyer) Pettitt, was a native of Canada, born July 15, 1820.

The education of John M. Pettitt was secured in the district schools of Henry county, and after making his adieus to text-books he for some time devoted his energies to the cultivation of his father's farm. In 1881 he removed to Adams county, Nebraska, where he lived for ten years, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

He then returned to Henry county and again undertook the management of a part of the family homestead. In June, 1900, he came to Kewanee and accepted a position in Nobilings' grocery, which he held until December, 1908. Desiring to become a more independent factor in the business world and eminently well fitted for this, in 1909 he embarked in the general merchandise business in connection with Thomas J. Dunn, their establishment being at the corner of Fifth and Tremont streets. They have been greatly recommended both by their honorable business methods and by the excellence of the stock of goods carried by them. They deal in staple and fancy groceries, dry goods, shoes and some house furnishing goods. Though young among Kewanee's firms they already possess a large trade.

Mr. Pettitt is a man who believes in "deeds, not words," and one willing to devote time and effort to the furtherance of any good cause. He is a staunch prohibitionist and his championship of temperance has been both effective and beneficial. He is a consistent member of the Kewanee Baptist church. He resides at 816 North Main street.

---

#### WILLIAM G. WHITE.

Some men are natural leaders both in political and private life and when such power is in the hands of those who are good and reliable the community prospers. Such a man is William G. White, of Clover township, who was born August 21, 1859, in Lynn township, Henry county, a son of Robert S. and Elizabeth (Neal) White, residents of Woodhull, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was reared on the home farm, assisting in the general work and attending the country district schools, thus growing to vigorous young manhood. Upon attaining his majority he commenced working for himself on a farm in Osco not far from Cambridge, continuing there for four years prior to his marriage.

On February 11, 1891, Mr. White married Edith M. Shelter, a daughter of John W. and Nancy J. (Knox) Shelter, prominent people of Clover township, where Mr. Shelter owns considerable property, although he and his wife now reside in Woodhull. Mr. and Mrs. White have one son, Harry L., who is a student of the Woodhull high school, class of 1911. He will be eighteen years old when he graduates and will then be given academic and collegiate courses.

For the nine years following his marriage, Mr. White resided in Ontario, Knox county, Illinois, where he owned a fine farm, but in the fall of 1899 he removed to the White homestead in Clover township, Henry county, where he has since resided. There he carries on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of thoroughbred horses and hogs, he believing that only high bred stock pays. The White homestead comprises one hundred and sixty-six acres, while his Knox county farm consists of eighty acres.

The political affiliations of Mr. White are with the republican party and he has served it as a member of the county central committee and a number of times as delegate to conventions. While residing in Lynn township he was

road commissioner for several years and held the same office for three years in Clover township prior to becoming assessor here and he has continued the incumbent of that office for six continuous years. For nine years he has been a member of the board of education and has served it as clerk during this time. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian church, of which he has been an elder for a number of years. For some time he was superintendent of the Sunday school and Mrs. White is one of the teachers in it. She is also a member of the church missionary society and belongs to other organizations of the church. Both Mr. and Mrs. White are very much interested in the Farmers Institute, she serving as secretary of the domestic science department and previously as its president. They believe that the work of the institute is affecting a remarkable change among the farmers and their wives and they are contributing both time and money to it. Mr. White is one of the most progressive citizens of Clover township and has always advocated good roads, bridges, schools and government. A supporter of the church, he believes that it is one of the most important factors in advancing the moral standard of any community and no call is made upon him in vain for furthering its work.

---

#### JOHN A. WIDNEY.

After almost half a century of active endeavor John A. Widney feels that he is justified in retiring from business, and, resting upon his laurels, he can enjoy the success which the years have brought him. He was for a long period one of the enterprising agriculturists of Oxford township and has not entirely relinquished all connection with his former life. He was born in Spring Run, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, March 27, 1840, and is a son of Alexander E. and Margaret (Hammond) Widney, also natives of Franklin county, where they were married and resided until 1855, when they came to Illinois. They located first at Mount Carroll and in 1858 came to Oxford township, Henry county, where Mr. Widney engaged in agricultural pursuits, though before his advent here he had given his attention to mercantile business and farming remained his vocation during the remaining years of his life. While the Mexican war was in progress he recruited a regiment for service and was accorded the rank of lieutenant colonel of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers. He lived to see the Civil war brought to a successful close, although he took no part in that conflict, and he also witnessed the great change which transformed the character of this county from the early '50s, when he came here, to the end of the year 1884, when his death occurred. His widow lived until June, 1906, when she was laid by his side in the cemetery at Woodhull.

John A. Widney grew to manhood on the home farm and received a good education, first in a little log school in his native county, later the public schools of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and after his parents came to Illinois, in the schools of Mount Carroll. After coming to this state he engaged in teaching in Oxford township through the winters of 1860, 1861 and 1862, and in the spring of the last year. On the 9th of August, 1862, he and eight of his pupils enlisted in

Company D, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served throughout the war, was advanced to the rank of corporal and was then detailed as a member of the regimental band. Later he was offered a lieutenantancy but this he declined as he did not want to leave the band. On being discharged from the service he returned to the life of a farmer, which he followed for twenty-seven years in Oxford township, near the village of Woodhull. He was progressive in his ideas and met with unequivocal success. In 1891 he was active in the organization of the State Bank of Alpha, the first institution of its kind established in the village, and for seven years was its cashier. In 1898 he retired from participation in the banking business, having witnessed the enterprise assume gratifying proportions, and has since enjoyed a well deserved rest in his comfortable home in Alpha.

On the 26th of October, 1865, after his return from the army, Mr. Widney wedded Miss Sarah A. Gillette, a daughter of David and Mary (Dixon) Gillette. The family came to Illinois in 1852 from Sullivan county, New York, in fact Mrs. Gillette was a cousin of Governor Dix, the famous war governor of that state. They located first in Stark county but the next year came to Henry county, settling on the land now occupied by the village of Galva, which at the time was not even laid out and in which the Gillette home was almost the first one to be built. Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Gillette enlisted in the Seventeenth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after the close of hostilities returned to his Galva home, where he engaged in business as a carpenter contractor. Indeed many of the houses of the village were constructed by him. He died in December, 1862, while his wife survived until January, 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. Widney are the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters: Stella B., the wife of George H. Robinson, of St. Louis, Missouri; Burton G., who has married and is the cashier of the North Henderson Bank; Grace E., who is the wife of Dr. W. E. Mabee, of Galesburg; Leo E., of St. Louis, Missouri; Stanley W., of Chicago; and Alice, who is the wife of Professor E. B. Conant, a member of the law faculty of the University of Nebraska, in which institution Mrs. Conant is a teacher of voice culture. In fact both Mrs. Mabee and Mrs. Conant have received fine musical educations, being graduates of the Knox Conservatory of Music, of Galesburg, and as vocalists of no ordinary ability are prominent in the musical circles of their respective localities. All of the children completed the course of study prescribed by the high school of Woodhull and were given the advantages of higher education.

Politically Mr. Widney is a democrat and has always been intelligently interested and active in public matters and prominent in the councils of his party. During Cleveland's first administration, from 1885 to 1889, he was postmaster of Woodhull and has held other positions, for he has served as school treasurer of Oxford township for twenty years and still holds that position, and has been a member of the village board of Alpha and its president for one term. Perhaps the most convincing evidence of his popularity, however, was that displayed in the election of 1890. He was nominated by his party for sheriff of Henry county and received the largest vote ever cast on a straight democratic ticket, reducing the majority of the republican candidate, which normally amounted to about two thousand, to a bare seven hundred. While the Grand Army retained a post in

Woodhull he was active in its ranks as he still is in the Methodist Episcopal church to which he and his family belong, for he has been trustee and steward for a number of years and treasurer of the Sunday school. Mrs. Widney is also prominent in church work, having been superintendent of the Sunday school for the past eighteen years and a delegate to the national general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, from central Illinois, which met in Los Angeles, California, in 1908. The Widney home has always been a popular social center and prominent in the life of the village, for a refined and cultured atmosphere pervades it and there a genuine hospitality is extended to friend and worthy stranger alike.

---

#### GEORGE H. FESLER.

George H. Fesler, a retired agriculturist residing in Burns township, was born in Mason county, Illinois, on the 2d of June, 1844. His paternal grandfather, John Fesler, a native of Germany, established his home in the United States a short time prior to the Revolutionary war and aided the colonists in their struggle for independence. His demise occurred in Mason county, Illinois, in 1841, when he had attained the remarkable age of nearly one hundred years. Our subject still has in his possession the powder horn and rifle barrel which was carried by his grandfather in the Revolutionary war and also has a clock with wooden works, which was owned by him.

Adam Fesler, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania and came to Peoria, Illinois, in 1836. He was a miller by trade but on arriving in this state could only secure employment by the day. Soon afterward he entered forty acres of land in Mason county and devoted his attention to its cultivation for a few years, when he disposed of the property and entered another tract of eighty acres in the same county. On the latter farm he erected a house and all necessary outbuildings and there carried on his agricultural interests for a period of three years. In 1854 he came to Henry county, taking up his abode on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he purchased on section 7, Burns township. Here he made his home continuously until 1863, when he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to Geneseo, where his remaining days were spent. He passed away when sixty-seven years of age and his demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of friends during the long period of his residence here. His wife bore the maiden name of Susan Everett and her parents came from Holland. She died in Geneseo in 1873 at the age of eighty-four years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adam Fesler were born the following children: two who died in infancy; Mary, the wife of William Tell, of Geneseo; Sarah, who is the wife of J. J. Murphy, an agriculturist living in Nebraska; George H., of this review; Maria, the wife of J. A. Rishel, of Cambridge; and Irene, who gave her hand in marriage to Lawrence Cherry, of Geneseo.

George H. Fesler was a lad of ten years when he came to Henry county with his parents and has since continued to reside within its borders. He gave his father the benefit of his services in the work of the home farm until the time of the

latter's retirement in 1863, when he took charge of the place. Following the father's death he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead and since the property has been in his possession he has placed many new improvements thereon, so that it is now lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. In addition to his farming interests he also dealt extensively in live stock, making a specialty of thoroughbred white faced cattle, polled Angus and Black Mull cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses. Aside from the homestead farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 7, Burns township, he likewise owns forty acres of land in Cambridge township and another tract of forty acres on section 18, Burns township. At the present time, however, he is largely living retired, having won a handsome competence through the careful conduct of his agricultural interests in former years. He is the president of the Mutual Telephone Company of Henry county and has long been numbered among the prosperous and prominent citizens of the community.

On the 6th of October, 1867, in Cambridge, Mr. Fesler was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Green, a daughter of Robert and Sally (Crittenall) Green, who were natives of Steuben county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Fesler were the parents of six children, namely: Susan, who died at the age of eight years; Ray, who passed away when five years of age; Albert, who is married and operates the home farm; Sadie, the wife of W. A. Fell, an agriculturist of Burns township; Edith, the wife of J. F. Johnson, who follows farming in Cambridge township; and Roland, who is married but still lives at home and is also engaged in the operation of his father's farm.

Mr. Fesler exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy and is an active worker in the local ranks of the party. The cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion and he has served as a school director for twenty-five years. Coming to this county as a lad of ten, he has lived here continuously throughout the intervening fifty-five years and that his life has at all times been upright and honorable is indicated by the fact that the associates of his youth and early manhood are still numbered among his staunch friends and admirers.

---

### JOHN H. LADD.

John H. Ladd, who is now operating the farm his father bought upon coming to this part of the country and which he now owns, is one of the progressive farmers of Kewanee township. He was born in New Canada, New Hampshire, September 2, 1850, and is a son of John T. and Lydia Ladd. The father was a stone-cutter in New Hampshire, but after coming to Illinois he devoted himself to farming. His advent into this state occurred in 1853, when he located in Bureau county, but four years later removed to Kewanee. A year later he bought four hundred and forty acres of land one mile east of Kewanee and spent the remainder of his life upon it, with the exception of the last three years, which were passed in the city of Kewanee. His death occurred June 9, 1880, and he

was mourned by a large circle of friends, who appreciated his many excellent traits of character.

John H. Ladd received a good common-school education and was trained in farm work by his father. When the latter removed to Kewanee, the young man rented the homestead, of which he took charge, eventually buying it. He has brought it to a high state of cultivation, and his neat premises, good buildings, and well tilled fields testify to his executive ability and knowledge of farming.

In April, 1874, Mr Ladd married Carrie Laird, a native of Stark county, Illinois, but a resident of Kewanee. They have five living children, as follows: Daisy May, who is at home; Frank P., who is in the marble business at Kewanee; Myrtle, who married Frank Gordon, of Zanesville, Ohio; Bertha, who married Arthur Palmer, of San Diego, California; and Harry, who is a teacher residing in Kewanee. A sixth child died in infancy. Mr. Ladd is a democrat, but his inclinations have not led him to desire public office, so he contents himself in doing his duty as a private citizen and in bringing up his children to be good men and women.

---

#### WILLIAM H. COSNER.

William H. Cosner, who has lived retired since 1903, was successfully identified with farming interests in Burns township throughout his active business career and has spent his entire life in Henry county. His birth occurred in Kewanee township on the 5th of January, 1842. His father, Jacob Cosner, who was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, on the 11th of September, 1809, there continued to reside until the year 1838, when he came to this state and took up his abode among the earliest settlers of Henry county, locating in Wethersfield township. At the end of about three years he was married and began the operation of a rented farm in Kewanee township, where his oldest son, William, was born. About 1843, he rented one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 14, Burns township, and was actively engaged in its cultivation until 1851, when he purchased a tract of eighty acres on section 11, Burns township. Subsequently he bought an adjoining tract of fifty-five acres, thus extending the boundaries of his farm to include one hundred and thirty-five acres, and devoted his attention to its further cultivation and improvement until 1874. In that year, in association with his son William, he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 14, Burns township, and continued to reside thereon until he passed away on the 3d of January, 1897, when eighty-eight years of age. He and his son erected an entire set of new buildings, put up fences and made many other substantial improvements. He was widely and favorably known throughout the county in which he made his home for almost six decades, and when he was called to his final rest the community mourned the loss of one of its most respected and worthy pioneer settlers, whose labors had contributed in substantial measure to its agricultural development. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Sarah Leonard, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania on the 6th of January, 1820, and who was still but a child when she came to Henry



M<sup>R</sup>. AND M<sup>R</sup>S. W. H. COSNER



county with her parents, who took up their abode among the pioneer settlers of Burns township and there spent the remainder of their lives. The death of Mrs. Sarah Cosner occurred on the 1st of July, 1896. She was the mother of ten children, as follows: William H., of this review; Sylvester R., who passed away in 1845; Abraham S., whose demise occurred in Cornwall township, when he had attained the age of fifty-six years; Benton B., who died in 1849; Sarah S., who was called to her final rest in 1855; Mathew P., who passed away September 12, 1857; Ruea Rosilia, who died September 30, 1858; Cynthia M., who passed away in young womanhood on the 6th of January, 1873; Francis M., whose demise occurred October 20, 1890; and Manda B., the wife of L. E. Wilhelm, of Kewanee.

In the acquirement of an education William H. Cosner attended the district schools of Burns township and when not busy with his text-books assisted his father in the work of the home farm, thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, when he was married and began farming for himself on a tract of eighty acres on section 2, Burns township. After residing thereon for eleven years he disposed of the property and removed to his present farm on section 14, Burns township, where he has made his home continuously since. He erected all new buildings with the exception of the residence, which he remodeled from time to time, put up fences and has also planted an orchard. In 1906 he built the handsome modern dwelling in which he now resides, while the original home is occupied by one of his sons. About 1903 he retired from active life and has since enjoyed well earned rest, leaving the work of the farm to his sons. He now owns altogether one hundred and seventy-two and a half acres of rich and productive land, and the prosperity which has crowned his labors is but the merited reward of his well directed and untiring industry in former years. He is the vice president of the Henry County Telephone Company.

On the 1st of January, 1864, in Burns township, Mr. Cosner was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide A. Wedge, a daughter of Chester O. and Paulina (Ellenwood) Wedge, who were natives of Connecticut and Ohio respectively and traced their ancestry to England. Rev. Abijah Wedge, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Cosner, was a Methodist clergyman and a soldier of distinguished rank, serving in a Connecticut regiment during the war of 1812. On the 5th of January, 1809, he had wedded Miss Lucinda Halloway, who was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, on the 30th of July, 1787. They made their way to Marietta, Ohio, in 1817 and in 1851 came to Illinois, while the year 1855 witnessed their arrival in Henry county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cosner were born two sons. William O., a farmer of Burns township, lives just across the road from his father's place. Ceria C., who resides with his father, has operated the home farm since the latter's retirement.

Mr. Cosner exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy and has always been an active worker in the local ranks of the party. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust, and he has ever discharged his official duties in a prompt and capable manner. He has been school director for

many years, has also acted in the capacity of road commissioner and has held the office of township assessor for two terms, while for eight years he served as justice of the peace and for six years as constable. He has been a stockholder and a director in the Kewanee Fair Association since its organization. The different members of his family attend the Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal church near Cosner's Corners and are highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth. A man of strong integrity and purpose, Mr. Cosner ranks high in the regard of his fellowmen, not only because of the gratifying degree of prosperity which he has attained but also by reason of excellent traits of character and his honorable and upright manhood.

---

### HERMAN G. HOOS.

The commercial interests of Geneseo find a worthy representative in Herman G. Hoos, a dealer in agricultural implements who is seeking success in the legitimate lines of trade, utilizing the advantages of judicious advertising and attractive display of goods to increase his yearly sales which are now of considerable proportions. He was born in Cambridge township, this county, November 12, 1875, being one of ten children whose parents were Horace and Sarah A. (Byers) Hoos, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. The paternal grandparents were likewise natives of Pennsylvania and, removing westward, became residents of Henry county, Illinois, in pioneer times, settling in Munson township, where the grandfather engaged in farming. There he continued to live and labor, year by year, until called to his final rest when more than seventy years of age. His widow, Phebe( Castoline) Hoos, still survives and is now about ninety-seven years of age. They were the parents of two sons and a daughter: Horace, Orland and Lillie, the wife of Irving Cramer. The maternal grandfather of Herman G. Hoos, was James Byers, a native of Ohio, who took up his abode in Woodhull, Henry county, Illinois, during the formative period in the history of this locality. He, too, carried on general farming as a life work and both he and his wife, Mrs. Sarah A. (McQuillen) Byers, lived to advanced years. Their family included: Washington, Levi, Mary, Jane, Clarence and Sarah A. Byers.

Horace Hoos was reared to the occupation of farming and made that pursuit his life work. He came to Illinois about fifty years ago, settling in Munson township, Henry county, where he secured a tract of land which he promptly brought under a high state of cultivation. He largely reared his family in Munson and Cambridge townships and, although he is now living retired, he is still the owner of forty acres of good farming land in this county. In 1908 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who passed away on the 7th of June of that year at the age of sixty-five. She was ever a loyal member of the Methodist church, with which Mr. Hoos also holds membership. Their family numbered seven sons and three daughters; Jacob, who died in infancy; Demaris, the widow of R. R. Smith; Dennis S., who is now a resident of Peoria, Illinois; Elnora, the wife of Lincoln Lilly, also of Peoria; George, who died when four-



MR. AND MRS. JACOB COSNER



teen years of age; Herman G., the subject of this review; Peter, of St. Louis, Missouri; Lois May, the wife of Fred Scovil, of Munson township; Cleveland, also living in Munson township; and Robert Nathan, who died at the age of eight years.

Herman G. Hoos, whose name introduces this record, spent his youthful days in the usual manner of farm lads who divide their time between the work of the fields, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. He was reared in Cambridge township and remained at home until he obtained his majority but at the age of sixteen years began earning his own livelihood by working by the month as a farm hand. When he had reached adult age he began farming on his own account by cultivating rented land and during that period carefully saved his earnings until his capital was sufficient to enable him to make purchase of two hundred and fifty-six acres in Loraine township. He lived upon that farm for three years and then sold it, after which he bought one hundred and sixty-six acres in Geneseo township. Year after year he tilled his fields there, practicing the rotation of crops and cultivating his farm after the most approved methods of modern agriculture. He won success in this way and lived upon that property until 1905 when he sold out and bought a half section of land in Sargent county, North Dakota. When he disposed of that tract he bought six hundred and forty acres in the same county which he still owns.

On the 6th of June, 1900, Mr. Hoos was married to Miss Tillie E. Gresser, who was born in Henry county, Illinois, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Gresser, who were natives of Germany and early settlers of this county. Their family numbered eight children: Herman, John, Henry, Edward, Louis, Pauline, Augusta and Tillie.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoos are members of the Methodist church and are much esteemed in that organization and in the community at large. They have lived for the past four years in Geneseo. On the 1st of October, 1907, Mr. Hoos formed a partnership with Charles P. Rose and purchased the implement business of Wagle Brothers. A year later he became sole proprietor and has since conducted the business alone, his enterprise and careful management making his undertaking one of substantial profit. Politically he is connected with the republican party and fraternally with the Knights of the Globe. He is a gentleman of genial disposition and courteous manner and has other sterling qualities which command the friendship and regard of those with whom he is brought in contact.

---

#### GEORGE WINDISCH.

George Windisch is a successful farmer, operating one hundred and fifty acres of land in Weller township, which he leases. He is a native of Des Moines, Iowa, born January 30, 1864, of the marriage of John and Anna (Anderson) Windisch, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Des Moines. The father now makes his home in Kansas City, Missouri, but the mother passed away many years ago, her death occurring in Des Moines in 1869.

George Windisch, bereft of a mother's love and care when but five years of age, was reared in the home of his uncle, and acquired his education in the public schools of Bishop Hill, his father having established his home here during the early youth of the son. After putting aside his text-books he secured employment with Swan Swanson at farm labor, working for him until the latter retired, since which time Mr. Windisch has leased the land. He cultivates one hundred and fifty acres in Weller township and although he is not in possession of the land he takes just pride in its appearance and has made many needed improvements on the place. He understands his work and his labors are productive of good results as is evidenced in the excellent crops which he stores in his granaries each year.

Mr. Windisch was married on the 1st of December, 1887, the lady of his choice being Miss Ida C. Olson, of Nekoma, Illinois, a daughter of John Olson, who is engaged in the mercantile business at that place. They lost their eldest child, Oscar E., when a little lad of nine years. The surviving children are: May A., a young lady of nineteen years, engaged in teaching; Pearl A., who at the age of seventeen is attending the public schools at Bishop Hill; Edna C., fourteen years of age, John E., eleven years old and Helen E., a little maiden of eight, all attending school.

Mr. Windisch in the main advocates the principles of the republican party although he is not strictly partisan and occasionally casts an independent ballot. He is a member of the Select Knights at Bishop Hill and his wife and daughters affiliate with the Swedish Methodist church. He possesses all the elements of what in this country we term a "square" man—one in whom to have confidence, a dependable man in any relation and any emergency.

---

### THOMAS J. DUNN.

Thomas J. Dunn, a dealer in general merchandise and one of Kewanee's substantial citizens, was born in Boone county, Indiana, May 19, 1872. His father, Josephus Dunn, was born in Kentucky in October, 1828. About the close of the Civil war he removed with his family to Boone county, Indiana, and took up a farm of two hundred acres, which he cultivated until 1879. In that year he went to Kansas, where he acquired a homestead and engaged in agriculture for a number of years. He died there on the 1st day of January, 1906, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother of our subject, Katherine (Earskin) Dunn, was also a Kentuckian and was forty-five years of age at the time of her death, which sad event occurred October 5, 1888.

Thomas J. Dunn attended the public schools of Kansas and Hesper Academy in Douglas county, that state, finishing his education with a normal course at Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois. Thus becoming familiar with the science of pedagogy, he spent the ten ensuing years of his life as a school master in the district schools of Henry county. Deciding upon a change of occupation, he came to Kewanee and for a year and a half was employed as clerk in the grocery of Mr.

**Nobiling.** Upon leaving there he entered the dry-goods house of J. R. & J. G. Hoffman, where he took charge of the carpet department. Seven years later he severed his connection with the Hoffmans and with John M. Pettitt opened a general store at the corner of Fifth and Tremont streets. Here they have built up a thriving trade and established themselves among the leading firms of the city. Their stock consists of dry goods, groceries, shoes, and some house furnishing goods.

On October 30, 1901, Mr. Dunn was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Ibson, a daughter of Christopher Ibson, a farmer residing near Kewanee. Their home is pleasantly situated at 215 McKinley avenue.

In national politics Mr. Dunn gives an unfaltering devotion to the republican party, but in local politics he believes that the wiser course lies in non-partizanship. He is a member of the Fairview United Brethren church, a little north of Kewanee, but on account of the inconvenience of its situation, regularly attends the Baptist church in Kewanee. Of unquestioned integrity and known to have the best interests of the whole people constantly at heart he stands high among his associates.

---

### THOMAS WARD.

Thomas Ward, now retired from the active labors of the farm after a well spent life, was born in Somersetshire, England, February 19, 1844, and is an example of the best class of men his country has given us. He is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Andrews) Ward, both of whom were natives of England. The father was a teamster and small farmer, making a specialty of manufacturing cheese and working at the peat factory. He had eight children, of whom one died in infancy, and Thomas is now the only survivor. All of the others came to the United States except one. They were as follows: Robert died in Bureau county, this state; Eliza married William Cook, spent her life in England and, dying, left a large family; Hannah married John Lane, who lives in Geneseo, but she is deceased; Joseph passed away in Geneseo; Benjamin lived in Geneseo but went to Boulder, Colorado, where he died; Fannie married Henry Ole and her death occurred in Geneseo; Thomas is the seventh; as well as youngest.

Thomas Ward was only fifteen years old when he lost his mother, but his father survived until 1870, being buried by her side in an English cemetery. The education of Thomas Ward was secured in England, he remaining with his father until nineteen years of age. He then worked at various things until he was twenty-two years old, when on October 22, 1866, he married Mary Nuttycomb. She was born in Somersetshire, England, December 28, 1845, a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Cook) Nuttycomb, also natives of England. Her father was a gardener, who came to this country when Mrs. Ward was twelve years old. After four years spent in Dubuque, Iowa, he returned to England and there died in January, 1876. He had lost his wife in 1862 and they lie buried in English ground. They had seven children, all living: Mrs. Ward is the eldest; Ann married Frank Milton and lives in England; William, living in Wales, was an English soldier, who served until twenty-one years old when he was honorably discharged; Jane

lives in London; Sarah married Charles Cooper and lives in Minnesota; Thomas lives in Kansas; and Elizabeth married Daniel Dennis and lives in Syracuse, New York, he being deceased.

Immediately after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ward came from England on the steamer Edinburg and located in Henry county, Illinois, first renting land for three years. Following this Mr. Ward worked for Squire Harper on a farm in Geneseo township for nineteen years. Later he farmed on Dutch Bottom for several years, but he finally bought one hundred and twenty-three acres, which he now rents, and for the past six years he has been living on the old Mandle place. He is a strong prohibitionist and has never cast his vote for any but the candidates of his party. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist church, of which he has been trustee for some years.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ward, namely: Elizabeth Ann, September 23, 1867, married Manuel Vonhosteen and lives in Idaho where he is a farmer. Joseph Walter, October 22, 1868, married Tillie Gerkin. They live in Phenix township and have two children, Jennie and Ernie. Fannie Bethel, February 28, 1870, married Frank Torence, and lives in Geneseo. They have seven children, Lulu, Hallie, Glen, Katie, Olive, Alice and Ward. Anna Malinda, born June 3, 1871, married Edward A. Potter and lives in Iowa. They have five children, Lucy, Florence, Lucile, Annetta and Merle. Nettie May, born June 22, 1873, married Edward E. Darin, who lives in Phenix, and has three children, Harold Avery, Mary Eleanor and John Ward. Jessie C., born February 11, 1876, married Louis Carl, of Whiteside county, and they have four children, Mary A., Ruby Irene, Florence and Russell. Forest B., born September 25, 1877, lives in Phenix township. He married Annetta Mortenson February 18, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward are most excellent people who have worked hard to make their way in life and most certainly deserve the comfort and prosperity that is now their share. They are justly proud of their children and grandchildren and are among the substantial people of Henry county.

---

### ROBERT G. NEVILLE.

Robert G. Neville, who devotes his time and energies to farming and the raising, feeding and shipping of stock, makes his home on the northeast quarter of section 29, Osco township. He was born on a farm in Kickapoo township, Peoria county, Illinois, on the 22d of June, 1862, his parents being George and Catharine (Moorehead) Neville. The father passed away when his son, Robert G., was but ten years of age and the latter at once went to work to assist in the support of the family, receiving a wage of ten dollars per month. When but fourteen or fifteen years of age he was able to do a man's work, but his salary was not always in proportion to his services. At the age of seventeen, however, he received a man's wages. He had but very limited educational opportunities in his youthful days and after he had attained the age of eighteen years he sent only a part of his wages home, saving the remainder in order that he might procure enough funds to enable him to continue his studies. It was at this time

that he came to Henry county and during the first year worked in Munson township for a Mr. Hadley. Subsequently he was in the employ of a Mr. Harriman in Osco for five years and it was while thus engaged that he spent two winter seasons as a student in the Davenport Business College.

On the 10th of February, 1886, in Osco, Mr. Neville was united in marriage to Miss Margaret McCurdy, of Osco township. She was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, but came to this county with her parents, Alexander and Catharine (Coneghy) McCurdy. Soon after his marriage Mr. Neville removed to Kearney, Buffalo county, Nebraska, where he was engaged in the operation of a rented farm for two years. In the spring of 1888 he returned to Osco township, taking up his abode on the farm which has remained his home to the present time and which was given to him by his father-in-law, Alexander McCurdy. There was a small house on the place but he has since made many substantial improvements and it is now lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. He is a man of untiring industry and good business ability, and has won a gratifying measure of success in his undertakings.

Unto Robert G. and Margaret (McCurdy) Neville were born four children, as follows: Alexander, whose birth occurred January 3, 1887, and who spent two years at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute; Robert, born August 4, 1888, who attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute for three years after graduating from the grammar schools and is now a sophomore in the Northwestern University of Evanston, Illinois; Harold, born February 13, 1890, who is a grammar school graduate and has spent one year in the high school at Cambridge; and Margaret, whose natal day was July 4, 1896. The eldest child was born in Nebraska but the other three are all natives of Henry county, Illinois. The mother was called to her final rest on the 10th of July, 1896, just six days after the birth of her daughter Margaret, her remains being interred in Osco township. On the 2d of January, 1901, in Western township, Mr. Neville was again married, his second union being with Miss Jennie Carson, a native of that township and a daughter of William and Agnes (Ferguson) Carson, who were born, reared and married in Scotland. After the birth of their eldest child they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling in Western township, this county. William Carson passed away on the 10th of March, 1909, but his wife still survives and makes her home with her children in Western township.

Mr. Neville is a staunch democrat in his political views and has held every public position within the gift of his fellow townsmen except those of collector and supervisor, ever proving most faithful and capable in the discharge of his official duties. Fraternally he is identified with Sherman Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., in which he has been junior deacon and junior warden, declining, however, to serve as worshipful master. Both he and his wife belong to Eastern Star Lodge, No. 96, at Orion, in which he has acted as worthy patron, while his wife has filled all of the offices, including that of associate matron. He is likewise a charter member of Maple Stump Camp, No. 2248, M. W. A., of which he was first venerable consul, thus serving continuously for four years. He was twice sent as a delegate to the state camp. Mr. and Mrs. Neville also belong to the Royal Neighbors, in which organization the latter has filled all of the offices

except that of oracle. In religious faith Mr. Neville is an Episcopalian and a valued and consistent member of Grace church, in which he has served as vestryman. Both he and his wife are widely and favorably known throughout the entire community, having gained many friends during the long period of their residence here.

---

### JAMES H. WHITE.

James H. White, well known in business circles in Geneseo as bookkeeper of the First National Bank and as a young business man of substantial worth, was born in Arnot, Pennsylvania, March 20, 1873. His parents were James and Janet (Miller) White, natives of Cumbernauld, Dumbartonshire, Scotland. The former was a son of James White, Sr., also a native of the land of hills and heather. Coming to America, he spent his last days in Pennsylvania near Scranton, where he died at the venerable age of eighty-eight. He had been a sheep man in his native country but in the new world lived retired. His wife was also eighty-eight years of age at the time of her death. Their family numbered five children. The maternal grandfather of our subject was William Miller, and he, too, was born in Scotland, where he died at the age of thirty-five years, having met death in a runaway accident. He was a milk dealer, using that business to provide a living for his family. His widow still survives and is now nearly one hundred years old. Their family numbered three children, including Janet Miller, who in her early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to Mr. White. He was a small farmer of Scotland and the favorable reports which he heard concerning business opportunities in America attracted him to this country. About 1865 with his family he made the long voyage across the briny deep to the new world, settling near Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he became foreman of a mine. About 1875 he removed westward to Ottawa, Illinois, where he became a large contractor in fire clay. He was not disappointed in the hope that led him to the United States, for here he found and improved the business opportunities which enabled him to acquire a handsome competence as the years passed by. His death resulted from an accident, as he was struck by the cars while crossing the track on the 9th of April, 1906, when sixty-five years of age. His widow still survives him and yet makes her home in Ottawa. She is a member of the Presbyterian church, to which Mr. White also belonged. They were the parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters, of whom six are now living: Jessie, the wife of J. L. Johnson, of Ottawa, Illinois; James H., of this review; Mary, the wife of W. H. Seward, residing near Ottawa; William C., a resident of Chicago; Margaret, the wife of J. S. Rhoads, of Winona, Minnesota; Walter H., of Hamilton, Montana; and three who died in childhood.

James H. White was a young lad at the time of the removal of the family to Ottawa, Illinois, where he was reared to the age of seventeen and during that period attended the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high-school student. On putting aside his text-books he began learning telegraphy in the office of the Western Union at Ottawa, and later was

made manager of that office for a time. He then entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, being stationed at various places as telegraph operator and agent. Subsequently he entered the main office of the Western Union Telegraph Company in Chicago, where he continued for two years and at the time of the breaking out of the Spanish-American war, he was sent to a special telegraph bureau in Washington, D. C., where he continued for two years and four months. Becoming ill with typhoid fever, he returned to Ottawa to recuperate his health and did railroad telegraphing there. He was then stationed at Geneseo as bookkeeper, agent and operator, acceptably filling the position until November 1, 1902, when he was tendered his present position in the First National Bank, where he has since served as bookkeeper. He is a thorough accountant and his ability and allegiance to the bank make him one of its most worthy representatives. He is also a director of the Central Life Insurance Company of Ottawa. While in the government telegraph service in Washington, D. C., he transmitted the peace protocol to Admiral Dewey, suspending hostilities until such time as they could arrange a permanent peace treaty.

On the 2d of June, 1902, Mr. White was married to Miss Louise Taylor a daughter of Peter H. and Ella (Hume) Taylor. There are two children of that marriage, Janet E. and Margery T., who are the light and life of the household. Mrs. White is a member of the Congregational church and has always been very active in its work. Mr. White holds membership in the Methodist church but attends the Congregational church with his wife. Fraternally he is connected with Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M., and Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the craft, being in hearty sympathy with its principles concerning mutual helpfulness and universal brotherhood. Politically he is a republican. His progress in a business way has resulted entirely from his own effort. He has learned to correctly value life's contacts and its experiences, to recognize and improve opportunities, and seeking his success along legitimate lines he has won the regard and esteem of his fellowmen as well as substantial advancement in the business world.

---

### HENRY PETERSON.

Among the many natives of Sweden who have come to the United States to test the resources of a newer country, were Andrew and Magdaline (Anderson) Peterson, parents of Henry Peterson, a prominent resident of Lynn township. Both of them were in youth bereft of their parents and they came to America alone, the mother in 1852 and the father in 1854, and were soon afterward married. They first located in Andover, Henry county, Illinois, where for a few years the father worked as a farm hand and by dint of rigid economy, saved enough money to buy a tract of land in Lynn township. It was there that Henry Peterson was born February 2, 1864. The father added to his property from time to time until he had considerable land. A republican in politics, he was active in public affairs and filled most of the township offices. He and his

family were members of the Lutheran church and for some years Mr. Peterson held the offices of trustee and treasurer. Originally members of the Andover church, they later assisted in the organization of the Orion Lutheran church, to which they gave true Christian service. The mother passed on to her reward March 1, 1884, being survived by the father until July 27, 1902, and their remains lie in Orion cemetery. These worthy people were the parents of eight children, four of whom died in infancy. Those still living are Mary E., now Mrs. William Gabrielson, of Orion; Josephine, now Mrs. Charles Chinell, of Western township; John E., also a resident of Western township; and Henry, the subject of this sketch.

Henry Peterson enjoyed the free, unrestricted life of a country lad. He took a business course in the Northwestern Normal School at Geneseo, and then returned to his father's farm, remaining there until his marriage in 1891, when he and his bride took up their residence upon a desirable tract of land, two hundred and ninety acres in extent. This Mr. Peterson has brought to a high state of improvement, and has met with success in the line of stock buying, shipping and feeding.

The marriage of Mr. Peterson and Miss Ida C. Benson was celebrated March 18, 1891, and three children have blessed their union, two sons and a daughter, Clarence H. and Pearl E., who are still living; and Lawrence E., who passed away in infancy. Mrs. Peterson's parents were Olaus and Inga (Samuelson) Benson, Swedish by birth, who came to this country in 1869 soon after their marriage. They settled directly in Henry county Illinois, the father doing farm work. He died in 1881, but his widow is still living.

Mr. Peterson is one of the standard bearers of the republican party in Henry county. He has been a member of the republican central committee and is a frequent delegate to conventions both county and district. He has been placed several times on the board of elections and has served the public as township collector and assessor. He is now assessor and for twenty-two years was school director. The township pins its faith to his determination to secure good schooling for the coming generation and all manner of benefits for the whole community. He and his family are consistent members of the Lutheran church at Orion.

---

#### AUGUST BEUSTER.

August Beuster, reared to hard work and strict discipline, taught wholesome lessons of life and habits of economy and industry, has been able to grow from useful boyhood to successful middle age, helped rather than retarded by the restrictions of rural life and limited opportunities for the development of business ability. He was born in Brandenburg, Germany, October 11, 1844, a son of Christ and Minnie Beuster. The father was a laborer and unable to give his son any advantages, and he grew up to a life of hard work, learning the trade of a mason.

By the time he was twenty-five, August Beuster decided that there were not enough opportunities for him in his native land, and so he emigrated to the United States and, coming to Kewanee township, Henry county, Illinois, found employ-

ment among the farmers, working by the month and learning the language. Within a year he began renting a farm and three years later bought sixty acres of land. This was the beginning of his present fine farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres. All he has he has earned himself and he is truly a self-made man.

In 1874, Mr. Beuster married Amelia Schultz, of Kewanee township, and they had two children: Mary, who is at home; and William, who works on the farm. Mrs. Beuster died in 1877. The following year Mr. Beuster married Augusta Spiegel, of Kewanee, and they have had five children, of whom one son died at the age of twenty-four years, the others being: John, who is a carpenter; Emma, who married Charles Wenderman, a farmer; Ernest and Arnold, both at home.

Mr. Beuster is a republican. For a number of years he has been a member of the German Lutheran church and for two years he has been one of its trustees. Mr. Beuster is a representative of the best class of men from the fatherland and he has proven himself faithful in every relation of life, thereby earning the confidence and high esteem of all who know him.

---

#### WILLIAM CLARK ATTWATER.

William Clark Attwater is now numbered among Henry county's energetic, diligent and successful farmers, owning and cultivating a tract of land of eighty acres on section 31, Munson township. He was born in Cambridge, this county, on the 5th of June, 1850, and is one of eleven children whose parents were Elisha and Margaret (Wright) Attwater, natives of New Haven, Connecticut, and of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, respectively. In his youthful days the father learned the cabinetmaker's trade which he followed for some time in the east. In 1840, however, he arrived in Henry county, Illinois, first settling in Andover and while living there he worked at his trade at Rock Island. At length he took up his abode on the present site of the village of Cambridge and purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, upon which he lived for five or six years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Munson township and made investment in a farm of two hundred and ten acres which he improved, bringing it under a high state of cultivation. It was upon that place that he reared his family and as the owner of property was long well known as a representative agriculturist of the community. At the time of the Civil war he put aside all business and personal considerations and with his sons, Eli and Thomas, responded to the country's call, he and Thomas enlisting for service as members of Company H, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he held the rank of second lieutenant, and Eli serving in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry. He participated in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, where his son Thomas was wounded, and he took part in a number of other important engagements of the war. He died in 1884 at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife survived until 1886 and passed away at the age of sixty-eight. Both held membership in the Congregational church and were consistent Christian people. Their family numbered eight sons and three daughters, of whom seven are now living: Eli B.; Thomas J.;

George W.; John; Elnora, the wife of N. R. Penny; William C.; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of H. N. Boyde; Robert W.; Emma, who died in infancy; Douglas; and Frank.

William C. Attwater was reared on his father's farm in Henry county and attended the district schools, remaining at home until he had attained his majority. He then started out in life for himself, renting land for nine years, after which he purchased eighty acres in Munson township where he still lives. Since that time he has bought one hundred and sixty-seven acres so that he now has an extensive farm which, owing to the improvements he has placed upon it and the care which he takes of his fields, has become one of the valuable properties of the district.

On the 19th of December, 1872, Mr. Attwater was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Mock, a daughter of John and Rebecca (Watson) Mock. Mrs. Attwater was born in Randolph county, Indiana, November 16, 1852, and her parents were natives of Greene county, Ohio. They came to Cambridge in 1855 and the father devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits. His death occurred in Cambridge township, April 2, 1897, when he was eighty-six years of age, while his wife passed away January 2, 1907, at the age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, of whom four are now living: Frank Mock, a resident of Cambridge; Mrs. Attwater; Mrs. Samuel Wilson, also of Cambridge; and Miss Nettie Mock, of Abilene, Kansas. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Attwater was Daniel Mock, a native of North Carolina, who married Ruth Lindsey, a native of Botetourt, Virginia. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Attwater was blessed with two children: Fannie and Roy M. The former is now the wife of Robert Scott, a resident of Cambridge, while Roy assists his father in the general work of the farm.

In his political views Mr. Attwater is a republican and has served as school director for eight or ten years. He is now the incumbent in the office of supervisor, which position he has filled for nine years, his long continuance therein plainly indicating his fidelity and the trust reposed in him by his fellowmen. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and has the warm regard of his brethren of the fraternity and of all those whom he has met in social relations. In business, too, he is thoroughly reliable and in his farming operations is meeting with well merited success.

---

#### FRANK J. STABLER.

Frank J. Stabler, who devotes his attention to the pursuits of farming and stock raising, is actively engaged in the cultivation of a tract of land comprising two hundred and forty acres on section 35, Kewanee township. He was born at Neponset, Bureau county, Illinois, on the 30th of May, 1870, his parents being John and Emma (Burch) Stabler, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. In the acquirement of an education Frank J. Stabler attended the district schools of Kewanee township, Henry county, and after putting aside his text-books he continued to give his father the benefit of his assistance in the

work of the home farm until the spring of 1891. Subsequently he rented a quarter section of land in the same locality and for two years devoted his time and energies to its operation. In the spring of 1893, when his father retired from active life and removed to Kewanee, Mr. Stabler of this review took charge of the home farm and has since been actively engaged in its cultivation and further improvement. The property comprises two hundred and forty acres of productive and arable land in Kewanee township, and in addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate Mr. Stabler also makes a specialty of market hogs, usually raising about three hundred head annually. He likewise sells on an average of one hundred and fifty head of cattle each year and in both his farming and live-stock interests has won a gratifying and well merited measure of success.

On the 14th of October, 1890, Mr. Stabler was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary E. Pyle, of Kewanee, by whom he has a daughter, Florence E., who is now seventeen years of age and follows the profession of school teaching.

When national questions and issues are involved Mr. Stabler gives his political allegiance to the democracy, but at local elections does not consider himself bound by party ties and supports the candidate whom he believes best qualified. For the past twelve years he has served as a school director and in this connection has done effective service for the cause of education. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in the community where practically his entire life has been spent, having won the kindly regard and esteem of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

---

#### HENRY O. KUHL.

Henry O. Kuhl is numbered among the native sons of Munson township; where he still resides, his home being on section 4, where a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of tillable land responds in generous harvests to the care and labor which he gives to it. His place presents a neat and attractive appearance and his well directed business interests are bringing to him a handsome competence. His birth occurred in Munson township, September 20, 1859, his parents being Henry F. and Mary (Westfall) Kuhl, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to America, the father first crossing the Atlantic while the mother afterward made the voyage to the new world. On reaching American shores Henry F. Kuhl continued his journey into the interior of the country and took up his abode in Henry county, Illinois, where he worked by the month as a farm hand for a time for his limited financial resources made it imperative that he find immediate employment. Later he began to rent land and thus his efforts more directly benefited himself.

On the 22d of October, 1857, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Westfall, the wedding being celebrated in Geneseo. There they lived for a time, but afterward Mr. Kuhl began the cultivation of a rented farm. As time passed he prospered in his undertakings and made investment in property until he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he brought under a high

state of cultivation. He was thus numbered among the self-made men in the county and from a humble financial position worked his way upward until he was numbered among the more prosperous farmers of the district. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, of whom Henry O. is the second in order of birth. The first child was Lena, now the wife of Chris Schroder, a resident of Montana. The children younger than Henry O. Kuhl are as follows: Matilda, the wife of Ernest Weinrich, who is living in Geneseo township; August, who makes his home in Davenport; Herman, a resident of Montana; George, who is living in Montana; William, whose home is in Osco township; and Lewis, a resident of Davenport, Iowa.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Henry O. Kuhl in his youthful days. He acquired a fair common-school education and on attaining his majority he began to provide for his own support by working as a farm hand by the month. He was thus busily engaged until thirty years of age, during which time he had saved a sum sufficient to enable him to begin farming for himself. As a further preparation for having a home of his own he was married in Cambridge, Illinois, on the 1st of March, 1889, to Miss Minnie Kane, whose home was in Edford township. She was born, however, in Germany, and when about five or six years of age was brought to the United States by her parents, Julius and Eva (Fritz) Kane. Her father died when she was about eight years of age. Mrs. Kuhl was provided with the educational advantages offered by the common schools and had been trained to the work of the household so that she was well qualified to take charge of a home of her own at the time of her marriage.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kuhl took up their abode upon a farm and bent their united energies to the task of winning success, Mrs. Kuhl ably managing the household affairs while Mr. Kuhl in a persistent, enterprising and progressive manner attended to the work of the fields. In 1906 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 4, Munson township, and is now the owner of an excellent farm, well equipped with modern improvements.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kuhl have been born four children: Mabel, who was born December 16, 1890, on the farm where the family now reside; Otto, born August 19, 1891; Herbert, born May 19, 1896; and Nora, born August 10, 1898. The family are well known in this locality and Mr. Kuhl is numbered among the early settlers for during a half century he has lived in this part of the state and has been an interested witness of the growth and progress which have marked the transformation of the county from a wild and sparsely settled region into one of the leading counties of the commonwealth.

---

#### HENRY E. DIRCK.

Henry E. Dirck, who lives on section 35, Phenix township, was born on his present property, March 3, 1865, a son of Michael and Polly (Temple) Dirck. He is devoting himself to breeding high grade polled Angus cattle and his results have been extremely gratifying. His father was a native of Wayne

county, Ohio, but early came to Henry county, Illinois. A full history of him is given elsewhere in this work.

The Dirck farm was entered by the grandfather of its present owner and originally consisted of eighty acres, but it has been much enlarged, so that it is now one of the best stock farms in Phenix township, and Mr. Dirck takes great pride in keeping it up to standard in every respect. His house is a modern one and he has made some excellent improvements. His machinery is good, and the place shows that a good manager is in charge of affairs. Recently he added to the farm one hundred acres in section 36, the same township, for which he paid eighty dollars per acre.

After securing a fair common school education, Mr. Dirck continued to farm for his father even though he has passed his majority. On March 14, 1894, however, he was married in Munson township to Angelica Lindquist, who was born at Vexio, Kronoburg, Smoland, Sweden, daughter of Karl W. and Sarah (Anderson) Lindquist. She was a baby when her parents left Sweden for America, her grandmother taking charge of her. It was expected that she would be brought over the following year by an aunt and uncle, but they dying, she did not make the trip until fifteen years old. However, she secured a good common school education in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Dirck are the parents of seven children, namely: Ethel P., born December 26, 1894; Vernon, born January 14, 1897; Arvid, born October 8, 1899; Lulu, born February 3, 1902; Dorothy, born May 29, 1905; and Lester and Esther, twins, born July 8, 1908.

Mr. Dirck is independent in politics, not caring for office but trying to do his duty as a citizen according to his best lights. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, camp No. 40. A good farmer, excellent business man, fond of his home and family, he is a representative Henry county man, who stands well with his neighbors and is proud of what his father accomplished and that he owns land that has been in the family for so long.

---

#### LE ROY SNYDER.

Le Roy Snyder, a successful farmer, who is interested in his work and consequently able to make his land yield him a good profit, was born in Burns township, March 27, 1852, and is a son of Daniel Snyder, a sketch of whom is given elsewhere in this work. Mr. Snyder's boyhood days were spent upon the homestead farm and when he was only nine years old he was harrowing the fields and doing other heavy farm labor. In those days children earned their school advantages, and this lad was no exception for he walked two and one-half miles to the country school held in a log house, but even then he had the opportunity of going but two terms. Then a new building was erected, but the greater part of his time was spent in hard work.

For about fifteen years Mr. Snyder conducted his father's farm and then in 1878 bought his first farm of one hundred and twenty acres on time, for he had no money to pay down. Each year he paid on his land from what he made on his crops and later was able to add forty acres to his original purchase. As

conditions changed he found it more profitable buying and selling stock and to-day handles large quantities of mules and hogs which he ships to city markets.

On Christmas Day, 1874, Mr. Snyder married Miss Elizabeth Hawthorn, of Burns township, a daughter of Robert and Esther Hawthorn. Her father was a machinist in Philadelphia where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have five living children, namely: Orville, a farmer of Burns township, who married Ruea Schoonover; Harvey, also a farmer, who married Minnie Griffin; Maud, the wife of Louis Brasel, a farmer of Kewanee township; Eva, the wife of Carl Burg, a farmer of Burns township; and Ernest, at home. There was another son, Lyman, who died October 27, 1901, leaving a widow, who was formerly Miss Grace Schoonover. He and Orville married sisters on the same day. The loss of this young man in the very prime of young manhood was a terrible blow to the family, and his memory is tenderly cherished.

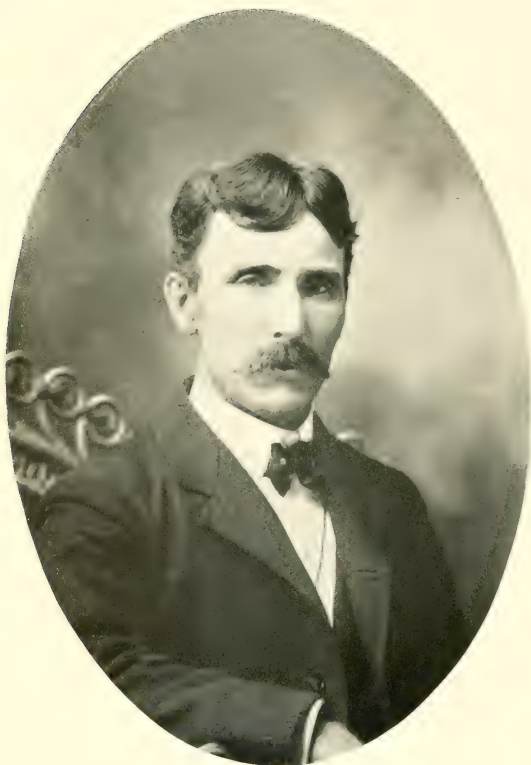
Mr. Snyder was a road commissioner and school director for eighteen years and served the public faithfully and well. Owing to his strict probity he is often called upon to act as administrator of estates, and his days are filled with many duties for he is never content unless busy and he has made his work pay well and now is in very comfortable circumstances, although all he possesses he has earned himself. He is still living in the old home and has his dinner in the room where he was born fifty-eight years ago.

---

#### CHARLES A. GOLMAN.

America has been likened to a great melting-pot into which the metal of all nations has been poured to form the splendid compound which makes our nation unapproachable in strength. One of its most virile elements is acknowledged to be the Swedish, and of this is Chas. A. Golman, of Andover township. He was born April 28, 1858, on the place where he is now residing, but his parents, Jonas and Christine (Petersen) Golman, were natives of Sweden and came to America as young married people, settling in Andover township. They reared a family of four children. Louise is the wife of Charles P. Molberg and living in Rio, Knox county, Illinois; Emma is at home; Huldah is now Mrs. Charles Ecberg, of Andover township; and Charles A. is the subject of this review. The father was successful in the land of his adoption, becoming a prosperous farmer and an active and excellent citizen. He gave fealty to the republican party, and both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church of Andover. He died on the 1st of January, 1905, and his wife followed him in February, 1907. These estimable people were buried in Andover cemetery.

Charles A. Golman passed his boyhood upon his father's farm and secured his schooling in the educational institution provided by the township. From early manhood the intelligent methods employed by him in agriculture have been productive of excellent results. Thus recommended he was asked in 1894 to take charge of the farm of the Swedish Orphans Home near Andover and in 1907 he was made superintendent of this eleemosynary institution, known as the Swedish Lutheran Orphans Home. The farm appertaining comprises three hun-



CHARLES A. GOLMAN



dred and ninety-seven acres of land of exceptional fertility. In addition to agriculture proper, Mr. Golman is engaged in the raising of cattle, hogs and sheep.

On May 14, 1902, Mr. Golman was united in marriage to Miss Clara Petersen, a daughter of C. J. and Willette Petersen, who also came from Sweden, the former finding employment as a laborer on the railroad before he located in Andover township, where he still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Golman have two young daughters, Esther Henrietta and Nellie Radena.

Mr. Golman has long given allegiance to the men and principles of the republican party. He takes an active interest in public matters as every ideal citizen must, but he has never been tempted to office seeking. On several occasions he has been a delegate to conventions. He is identified with the order of the Northern Star, and he and his wife give valuable support to the Andover Lutheran church. In short Mr. Golman is an enterprising and public-spirited man with altruistic ideas for the improvement of society.

---

#### OLOF PETERSON.

Olof Peterson, who is one of the successful and enterprising farmers of Bishop Hill, was born in Ofvanäker Socken, Helsingland, Sweden, May 14, 1847. His father, Per Erickson, who was a native of the same place, died in Bollnäs, Sweden, at the age of forty-five, and his mother, who was Miss Brita Jonson in her maidenhood, was born in Alfta Socken, and died in Bollnäs, in the winter of 1867. His wife's mother, however, Christine (Jonson) Helstrom, is still living with the family upon the farm, and is yet active, although she has attained to the advanced age of eighty-six years. She is one of the original colonists, who came here in the summer of 1847, has witnessed the growth of the colony into a thriving village, while she has participated in her way in the work in which all shared during the lapse of years. Endowed with great energy and a cheerful disposition she is widely known and highly regarded, being especially held in esteem among the surviving old settlers of Bishop Hill.

Olof Peterson attended the public schools of his native land and was reared upon the home farm, which he conducted in part until he attained his majority. At the age of twenty-one he came to the United States, locating at Bishop Hill, this county. He found employment as a farm hand in Weller township for the first two years of his residence here, and then, having married, in 1870 he leased the place he now owns. It consists of one hundred and twenty acres, is well improved as the result of his own efforts, for he has reconstructed the original buildings and has added others to those which were standing when he assumed possession of the tract, and has cultivated the soil in a thorough and progressive manner. In consequence his fields exhibit the well cared for appearance that bespeaks the good farmer, while the condition of the farm's appurtenances indicates that he is a good and thrifty manager as well as a clever tiller of the soil. He has won more than a competence as the result of

his labors so that he may feel well repaid for the expenditure of time and energy he devoted to his fields.

On October 3, 1870, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Christine Helstrom, who died January 24, 1903. Her mother, Mrs. Christine (Jonson) Helstrom, was one of the original colonists who settled at Bishop Hill early in the summer of 1847. She now makes her home with our subject upon the farm and although she has reached the age of eighty-six years she is still quite active. Having been a resident of the county for over sixty-two years, she is widely known and universally respected and esteemed. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were born nine children but four died in infancy and August W. lost his life in an accident on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, November 26, 1903, at the age of twenty-nine years. Those of the family still living are: Olive C., who lives at home; Bessie C., also at home; Eric T., who is a fireman on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, making his home at Galesburg, Illinois; and Oscar H., who assists in the operation of the home farm.

Since he was admitted to citizenship in this republic Mr. Peterson has looked to the republican as his guide in political matters, and while he has not been conspicuous as a seeker for office he has been a participant in all local elections and has taken some part in public affairs of his township, having served as school trustee and as highway commissioner. The latter position he held for six years. His public spirit, which has characterized his actions since he became identified with the community here, and the success of his private life, have secured for him a full measure of the good will and respect of his fellows.

---

#### MATT REIFF.

Matt Reiff, the proprietor of a saloon at No. 221 West Third street in Kewanee, was born in the southern part of Germany on the 12th of January, 1866, his parents being M. and Mary (Schumacher) Reiff. The maternal grandfather, Matt Schumacher, spent his entire life in Germany. The father of our subject, whose birth occurred in that country on the 15th of July, 1832, worked as a stonemason in his native land until 1883, when he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, leaving his family in Germany. After residing in America for three years he returned to the fatherland, where he remained for six years and then brought his family to the new world, locating in Kewanee, Illinois. In 1899, in company with his two sons, Matt and William, he made a farewell trip to Germany, returning to this country after a short time. His demise, which occurred in Kewanee on the 5th of February, 1902, when he had attained the age of seventy years, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His widow, who still survives him and makes her home in Kewanee, is seventy-three years of age.

Matt Reiff obtained his education in the public schools of his native land and in 1882, when a youth of sixteen years, came alone to the United States. He made his way at once to Kewanee and on arriving in this city his cash capital amounted to a dollar and a quarter. Finding immediate employment a nec-

essity, he secured a position as a farm hand and worked in that capacity for a period of seven years or until the time of his marriage. In 1889 he began the operation of a rented farm and was actively engaged in its cultivation for five years. On the expiration of that period, in 1894, he opened a saloon in association with Charles Baute, who remained his partner until 1900. Since that time he has been the sole proprietor of the saloon at No. 221 West Third street and he is widely recognized as one of the prosperous and enterprising citizens of Kewanee.

On the 2d of March, 1889, in Kewanee, Mr. Reiff was united in marriage to Miss Emma Onart, a daughter of Peter Onart, who is a well known farmer of Kewanee. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reiff were born six children, four of whom are still living, as follows: Elsie, eighteen years of age, who is at home; Theodore, who is a youth of sixteen and attends school; and Anna and Eric, who are thirteen and eleven years of age respectively and are likewise attending school.

When national questions and issues are involved Mr. Reiff supports the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot, voting for the candidate whom he believes best qualified. He holds membership relations with the Eagles, the German Singing Club and the Liquor Dealers Association. He attends the services of the German Evangelical church, in the work of which the members of his family are deeply and helpfully interested. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized, for through the utilization of the opportunities here offered he has won a measure of success that entitles him to recognition among the substantial and representative citizens of his adopted county.

---

#### WILLIAM C. PALMER.

William C. Palmer, who since 1907 has been engaged with James M. Cavanagh in the undertaking business in Kewanee, is one of the older commercial men of the city. He was born October 28, 1863, a son of Aaron and Prudence (Tunnicliff) Palmer. The father was born in Lake county, Ohio, November 20, 1833, a member of a family which is still prominent in Concord and Mentor, that state. He received his education in the place of his birth and about 1849 came with his stepfather to Henry county, Illinois, locating upon a farm in Wethersfield township. Later he and his brother Grove Norris Palmer conducted a general store in the village of Wethersfield and then engaged in running a threshing machine and separator for eight seasons, during which time they threshed much of the wheat raised in their section of the county. On discontinuing that business Mr. Palmer engaged in raising and selling hedges and fruit trees and also carried on general teaming and draying, keeping four teams constantly busy. He passed away January 9, 1904. His wife was a native of Derbyshire, England, and came to America with her parents, locating first in Zanesville, Ohio. Later she came to Kewanee, where she is still residing. Through her marriage to Mr. Palmer she became the mother of ten children: Lucy E., died at the age of fifteen months. Sarah died at the age of two months and a half;

Addie M., was the wife of Bert Roulston and died in Lenox, Iowa, 1905; William C., is the subject of this sketch; Ernest E., lives with his mother in Kewanee; Nora J., died at the age of fifteen months; Walter A., is one of the prominent physicians of Castle Rock, Colorado, and also a prominent citizen in other ways for he has been mayor, is a bank director and superintendent of the Sunday school of the Methodist church, upon whose official board he also holds a position. As a ranchman he owns two thousand acres of land. He married Alice Bonney of Chicago, and has two sons, Walter L. and Donald. Bessie M., became the wife of G. C. Stratton, who is a merchant at Wyoming, Illinois. They have three children: Frank P. and Prudence, who are twins; and Genevieve. Grove G., has remained with his mother and is connected with the National Tube Company. Frank N., died at the age of five years.

William C. Palmer received his education in the public schools of Kewanee and after completing the course at the high school, entered the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Illinois. He then embarked upon a mercantile career. For the first five years he was a clerk in a grocery store and then for ten years was similarly employed by the firm of Lay & Lyman, of Kewanee. Having obtained a thorough knowledge of business methods and proved to his own satisfaction that he was capable of conducting a concern of his own, he bought an interest with C. J. Roadstrand, in the furniture store. For two years the business was conducted under the name of Roadstrand & Palmer and then the former partner sold his share to E. S. Good and the business was conducted under the name of Palmer & Good the next five years. They did a general business as furniture dealers and undertakers and when they dissolved partnership Mr. Palmer assumed charge of the latter. From the 15th of February, 1900, until June, 1907, he conducted the undertaking parlors alone with pronounced success and profit, and then offered an interest in the business to James M. Cavanagh. Since that date as Palmer & Cavanagh the firm has become the most prominent in its line in the city, conducting a vigorous business in their specialty and also in the sale of pianos, of which they handle the best makes.

James M. Cavanagh, the junior member of this enterprising firm, was born in Wethersfield, Illinois, November 10, 1880, a son of James and Bridget (Joyce) Cavanagh. The former, who was for many years one of the prominent farmers of Wethersfield township, was of Irish parentage, his father, Patrick Cavanagh, having been a native of County West Meath, Ireland. He came to Illinois in 1840, locating first in Stark county and then removing to Henry county, where he secured a piece of unbroken prairie land which remained his home and is today the home of his son James. The latter grew to manhood in Wethersfield township and became one of its well respected and prosperous citizens. Through his marriage with Miss Bridget Joyce, also the child of an early settler, he had five children, namely: John P., who married Elizabeth Maxwell and lives in Kewanee; Albert M., a lawyer in Chicago; James M., who is mentioned below; and Leroy L., and Charlotte, both of whom live in Kewanee. James M. Cavanagh attended the public schools of the county and of Kewanee, remaining with his father until he reached man's estate. Then he came to Kewanee and shortly after he joined his business interests with those of William C. Palmer. Though so young a man he has proved an able partner, who has done

his share toward advancing the interests of the firm. He is a member of the Catholic church and belongs to the social and fraternal orders connected with it, namely, with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

On the 25th of June, 1890, William C. Palmer wedded Miss Lorena Murchison, a daughter of Captain Alexander and Margaret N. (Weed) Murchison. Her father, who died in 1903, was one of the important farmers in Henry county during the years of his active life and was also a distinguished officer in the Union army during the Civil war. Indeed, he was one of the few men who unwittingly prepared others for the struggle for on the 4th of March, 1860, he helped to organize a military company which he drilled. At the inauguration of the war, at the first call for troops, he entered the service in Company B, Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was rapidly promoted until upon being mustered from the service in July, 1865, he held the rank of captain. The engagements in which he participated were among the most important of that great struggle which have been given historical prominence, and during his service he received a number of severe injuries. After his return from the army, he married and in the course of years became the father of three children. A. Clarence married and engaged in the practice of dentistry in Iowa. Lorena is the wife of Mr. Palmer. Frances C. J. received a good education and is now a licensed embalmer in Illinois. The mother is still living and makes her home in Colorado Springs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. William C. Palmer have been born three sons: Willie M. and Russell, both deceased; and Merwyn, who is a student in the high school at Kewanee. Politically, Mr. Palmer gives his support to the republican party. Socially he is connected with several organizations. Those of a fraternal nature include the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the Red Men. He also belongs to the Kewanee Club and the Commercial Club. Religiously he holds membership in the Methodist church, that being the congregation in which his father was prominent. Through the years in which he has been prominent in the business circles of Kewanee, he has gained the esteem and the assured respect of those who have come in contact with him.

---

#### HARVEY W. LINCOLN.

Harvey W. Lincoln, deceased, belonged to a good old pioneer family by the name of Lincoln and was a son of George Lincoln and a brother of Edward P. Lincoln, of Kewanee township. He was born in Connecticut before the family migrated to New York state and was fully grown on their removal to Henry county, Illinois, in 1850. He, with the rest of the family, experienced the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life. He bought a farm which he improved and upon which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1864, when he was only thirty-one years old.

Mr. Lincoln married Nancy Goodrich, of Kewanee, a daughter of Chauncy Goodrich, an extended mention of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. One son was born of this marriage, who was given his father's name, and a

daughter, Nettie, who died in infancy. After the death of Mr. Lincoln, his widow married a Mr. Day and her son grew up as Harvey Lincoln Day, by which name he is still known.

Many of the representatives of the Lincoln name have passed away, but there are others arising to take their place. While Harvey W. Lincoln did not live long enough to make any distinctive place for himself in his community he won friends by his open, frank manner and sterling honesty of character and he is mourned to this day by his brother Edward P. Lincoln, and two sisters, Ella E., and Ruth O., now Mrs. J. H. Pinney. He had managed by hard work and many sacrifices to secure a farm. His span of life was short, he passing away in the full vigor of manhood, but with the realization that he had accomplished what had been given him to do.

---

#### JOSEPH H. ANDERSON.

Joseph H. Anderson, who owns and cultivates an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Annawan township, makes his home on section 29, where half of his land is situated, while the remaining eighty acres lie on section 30, though the farm is all in one body. His birth occurred in Sweden on the 2d of July, 1863, his parents being Andrew and Bengtal (Johnson) Anderson. The father passed away in that country, about 1901, but the mother still survives at the age of eighty years and yet makes her home in Sweden.

Joseph H. Anderson, who obtained a fair education in the common schools of his native land, was a youth of eighteen when he determined to establish his home in the new world and embarked on the ocean voyage in company with a younger sister, landing on American shores at the end of eleven days. From New York he came direct to Henry county, Illinois, having a brother and a sister here. Arriving in this country empty handed and having even been obliged to borrow the passage money from his brother, he found immediate employment a necessity and at once began working by the month as a farm hand. In that way he was actively identified with general agricultural pursuits until the time of his marriage at the age of twenty-two years. Soon after that important event in his life he took up his abode on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 29 and 30, Annawan township, which was a part of the property belonging to his father-in-law. Here he has since carried on his agricultural interests with excellent success, annually garnering rich crops, which find a ready sale on the market. In 1909 he erected a modern nine-room dwelling, thirty-two by thirty-four feet, with basement. It is furnished with all up-to-date comforts and equipments, being supplied with hot and cold water, while a modern system of heating and acetylene lighting has also been installed.

On the 9th of December, 1885, in Annawan township, Mr. Anderson was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Agnes Machesney, who was born in Annawan township on the 5th of November, 1862, her parents being James and Selinda (Burgett) Machesney. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born nine children, the record of whom is as follows. Anna, the eldest, whose birth oc-

curred October 30, 1886, has received a good common-school education and is at home. James, whose natal day was November 12, 1887, and who is likewise still at home, supplemented his preliminary education by a course of study at Brown's Business College of Moline, which he attended for a year and a half. Florence, who was born January 12, 1890, has also completed her education in the common schools. Velma, born November 12, 1891, attended the high school at Granville, Putnam county, for a year and a half and likewise pursued her studies at Kewanee. Her demise occurred on the 29th of January, 1909, and her remains were interred in the Fairview cemetery. Ruth, who was born August 2, 1894, is now a sophomore in the Kewanee high school. John, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 9th of April, 1896, is now pursuing his studies in the district schools. Leila Anderson was born on the 9th of April, 1898. Carl, whose birth occurred November 27, 1899, died at the age of three months. Rosa, the youngest child of our subject, was born July 23, 1901.

Mr. Anderson is a stalwart advocate of republican principles, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, and he does not desire public preferment as a reward for his party fealty. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the United Brethren church at Fairview, to which his wife and five oldest children also belong. He and his wife are likewise members of Yeomen Lodge, No. 276, at Annawan, and have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community in which they reside. He started out in life on his own account in a strange country and without financial resources, but possessed strong purpose and unfaltering determination, and upon these qualities as a foundation he has builded the superstructure of his success.

---

#### HENRY B. POPPY.

Henry B. Poppy, who has now retired from the active pursuit of farming and lives in the enjoyment of an adequate income after many years of hard toil, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 5, 1831, and came to the United States in 1847, with his father, John Henry Poppy, who set forth to make a place for himself in the new world. They left their native land September 1, 1847, and the trip to New Orleans, required exactly nine weeks, while they were fifteen days ascending the Mississippi river to St. Louis. They spent one month in Quincy, Illinois, and then procured a team of horses and drove to Red Oak, Henry county, being six days upon the road. On the west half of section 7, Weller township, the father procured eighty acres of land, paying five hundred dollars in gold for a tract which today would sell upon the real-estate market for almost two hundred dollars an acre. It has been vastly improved, however, with the lapse of years, and even in 1875, when Mr. Poppy's life was ended, the home farm had advanced far along the road of improvement to which it later attained. The mother had died more than thirty years before, for she passed away in Germany when her son was but eleven years of age.

Henry B. Poppy attended the public schools of his native land until he reached the age of fourteen years and was about sixteen when he and his father started upon their long journey to the new world. With a will, aided by the tales of money making which had fired his ambition in his youth whenever mention was made of America, he set to work to assist his father in the work of the farm, which during the course of years was enlarged to five times its original size. After his marriage he removed to Galena, where he engaged in gardening, following that line of work for some six years, when he returned, in the fall of 1876, to Red Oak, where he purchased fifty additional acres. He next operated the one hundred and sixty acres on which he still resides and which is still included in the estate. Since he assumed the responsibility of its operation all the buildings that now adorn it have been erected with the exception of an old corn shed upon the home place. Besides being well improved, the fields are tilled with the greatest skill known to farming, evincing the thoroughness of the methods practiced by the owner. Although nominally he has retired from farming, he is still active about the place and claims with justifiable pride that should occasion demand he would be able to accomplish during a day as much as a younger man, despite his seventy-nine years.

On the 13th of June, 1858, in Weller township, Mr. Poppy wedded Miss Lisette Newman, a daughter of William Newman, who came here from Germany with his family in 1857. He settled in Red Oak but did not live long to enjoy the advantages of this country, for he passed away, it is said from grief for his wife, who died in Germany about three years after his arrival here. Five sons and one daughter have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Poppy. They are Henry, who died in infancy; Volly J., who is a retired farmer, now living in Cambridge, Illinois; Lucy L., who died at the age of sixteen years; Herman G., who is farming in Cambridge township; Julius C., who operates the homestead; and Clarence, who died in infancy.

Mr. Poppy was first an adherent of the democratic party but as the years have passed, he has changed his views until now he is non-partisan, investigating every question and candidate before he gives his support to it or him. Such he believes to be the duty of each man who is really worthy of the name of citizen, for only in that way can he be assured that his influence is being exerted where it will have the most desirable results. Naturally he has taken a deep interest in local affairs, although he has not filled any offices save those of school director and highway commissioner. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, and while he believes in its tenets, he has attended various churches.

---

### JULIUS C. POPPY.

Julius C. Poppy, a worthy son of his father, Henry G. Poppy, was born in Galena, Illinois, June 11, 1873, but has spent the greater part of his life in Weller township, which is still his home. He attended the district schools of this township, and after the completion of his studies he found employment as a clerk in a general store in Hubbard, Iowa. After one year's experience, how-

ever, he returned to Illinois, locating in Cambridge, where again he found work in a mercantile establishment, so that it was not until 1893 that he took up the calling to which he was reared and which has since been his vocation. In that year he returned to the home farm, taking full charge of its operation, in which he has continued to the present. Besides having tilled it with profit he has added seventy-five acres to its area, and he has carried forward, in keeping with the advance of the time, the improvements instituted by the older man. The success which he has won from his cultivation of the soil places him among the representative agriculturists of Henry county. He has not confined his interests, however, to farm life but has been concerned in other enterprises, including the Farmers' Grain Elevator of Nekoma.

In Cambridge, Illinois, February 12, 1896, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Poppy and Miss Hilda Hulin, a daughter of B. I. Hulin, who is well known in that town, where for many years he has followed his trade as a wagonmaker. Two children have been born of this union—Clarice, who is eleven years of age; and A. Lucile, who is six. Both are attending school.

Like his father Mr. Poppy leans toward the democratic party, but is strongly non-partisan in his support of candidates and measures, casting his vote and influence only after a thorough investigation and the weighing of the relative claims of different aspirants for office. While residing in Cambridge he joined the ranks of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and still retains his membership in those organizations. The success which has been his has not been won without hard labor, but with all his responsibilities he has found time to devote to public interests and for eighty years has rendered efficient service as one of the school directors of the township.

---

#### CLAUDE M. HAMILTON.

Claude M. Hamilton is at the head of the firm of Hamilton & Plummer, conducting an extensive and successful business as florists of Kewanee. His birth occurred in Seward county, Nebraska, on the 11th of July, 1880. His father, Watson L. Hamilton, who was a native of Boston, Massachusetts, was brought to Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, by his parents when a boy and shortly afterward the family home was established in Kewanee, where both his father and mother died and where he spent the greater part of his life. William Hamilton, the paternal grandfather of our subject, established a brickyard at Kewanee which was later conducted by his son, Watson L. Hamilton, and for some years he likewise acted as justice of the peace at Kewanee. Frank Hamilton, an uncle of Mr. Hamilton of this review, was made postmaster of Kewanee after being discharged as a soldier of the Civil war on account of wounds received in that conflict. During the latter part of his life Watson L. Hamilton turned his attention to floriculture and about 1890, in association with Frank W. Plummer and his oldest son, Leroy F. Hamilton, he established the enterprise which is now being conducted by the subject of this review. He was thus actively engaged in business until the time of his demise, January 24, 1906, when he had attained the

age of fifty-eight years. For a great many years he was identified with the old Kewanee Band as snare drummer. His widow, who still survives and makes her home in Kewanee, bore the maiden name of Emma Frehse and was born in this county. She came of German parentage. Unto Watson L. and Emma Hamilton were born nine children, eight of whom are yet living.

Claude M. Hamilton obtained his education in the public schools of Kewanee and since entering the greenhouses of his father and brother at the age of fifteen years he has devoted his entire attention to floriculture. On the 1st of January, 1900, he was admitted to a partnership in the business and when his brother severed his connection therewith in 1906 he purchased the latter's interest, so that he is now at the head of the firm of Hamilton & Plummer, his associate being Frank W. Plummer. Mr. Hamilton has charge of the business end of the concern, while Mr. Plummer manages the greenhouses. Their greenhouses are situated at Terminal Park, where they have about forty thousand feet under glass and where they grow all of their cut flowers and potted plants. Their office and down-town store is at No. 204 East Third street. The business has steadily grown until it is now one of large proportions, extending throughout the surrounding country for a considerable radius.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Hamilton has given his political allegiance to the republican party. He has membership relations with the Kewanee Business Men's Association, the Kewanee Club and the Red Men and attends the services of the Methodist Episcopal church. On December 29, 1909, Mr. Hamilton was married to Miss Maude Pearce, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Pearce, natives of Hennepin, Illinois, who came to Kewanee in July, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton reside at No. 306 North Burr street. Although still a young man, he has already won a creditable position in business circles and is socially popular as well, his unfailing courtesy and unfeigned cordiality having gained him many friends.

---

#### MICHAEL DIRCK.

The late Michael Dirck was one of the pioneers of Henry county and was very prominent during the early days of its history. When he died on February 4, 1908, in Phenix township, at the home of his son Henry, he was in his eighty-second year and had spent fifty-eight years in this locality. At the time he came from his birthplace—Wayne county, Ohio—the land in Henry county was in a wild state and there were very few settlements. There were no roads and he was forced to put up with all kinds of inconveniences, going to Rock Island for necessities and fording Rock river en route. Milan was a favorite milling point, and often he hauled his grain there and the flour and meal back. His wages when he worked for others were as low as twenty-five cents per day and never higher than fifty cents.

When Mr. Dirck first came west it was with the intention of going to Dixon, Illinois, but he and his brother had the misfortune to have their only horse sicken on the way and they had to finish their trip on foot. Finally reaching

Dixon, he decided to enter Henry county land. As the years passed he had the pleasure of seeing many changes take place and before he died of realizing the advance on farm property in whose future he had been so sure over half a century before.

Mr. Dirck was born in Chester township, near Wooster, Wayne county, Ohio, February 1, 1827, while his wife was born August 15, 1830, in Sugar Loaf township, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. They were married October 29, 1851, in Phenix township, to which she had been brought by her parents in the fall of 1838, when eight years old. Mrs. Dirck passed away January 31, 1905, and is survived by one sister, Mrs. Lydia Merriam, of Colorado, and two brothers, Freeman Evans, of Geneseo, and George Evans, of Phenix township. Mr. and Mrs. Dirck had four children: Frank, who died when four years old; Mary Latson, who lives in Hanna township; Henry E. and Bert D., who both live in Phenix township.

Mr. Dirck was extremely fond of children, not only his own, but all little ones, and during his last years was affectionately called "grandpa" by the whole neighborhood. He was a man of kindly deeds and warm impulses, strong to stand up for what he believed was right, but never desiring trouble with his neighbors, and when he died, although he had attained to an advanced age and disease had crippled his powers, yet all who knew him felt his loss and mourned him. His wife was a sweet, gentle woman, attached to her home and family, and he never quite recovered from her loss when she died three years before him.

---

### RYAN BROTHERS.

The Ryan family is an old-established one in Henry county, and two of its representatives, Joseph M. and Martin E., brothers, are numbered among the flourishing farmers of Kewanee township. Joseph M. Ryan was born December 14, 1864, in Secor, Woodford county, Illinois, a son of Dennis and Bridget (Hunt) Ryan. The father was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, and came to America in 1849, while his wife, who was born in County Carlow, came here in 1850. He was a railroad man but, buying land at one dollar and a quarter per acre, he also developed a farm.

When Joseph M. Ryan was seven years old he was brought to Henry county and he came to Kewanee in 1871. Until he attained his majority he remained with his father and then in partnership with his brother Martin E. purchased five hundred acres of rich farming land in Kewanee township, which they operate together. He was educated in the common schools and devoted himself to his studies until he was able to secure a teacher's certificate and for twenty-two years he has taught during the winter months, gaining the affection and respect of his pupils. On June 20, 1899, he married Mary E. McDonald, of Arlington, Illinois, and they have five children: Lawrence D., Mary E., Florence C., John J. and Martin J. The family belong to the Catholic church.

Martin E. Ryan, brother of Joseph M. Ryan, was born August 22, 1866, in Eureka, Woodford county, Illinois. He, too, was educated in the common

schools and worked on the farm with his father until he and his brother bought their present property. He is a practical farmer and knows his business thoroughly. In religious faith he is a Catholic. Both of these farmers are well known in Kewanee township and are recognized as being among the representative citizens in Henry county. Under their able management their farm has increased in value and now yields them excellent returns annually.

---

### JOHN A. LINDBURG.

John A. Lindburg, well known as a representative of real-estate interests in Kewanee, his business enterprise, diligence and keen foresight placing him with the leading men of this city, was born near Gothenburg, Sweden, September 29, 1859. His father, Olaf Lindburg, was also a native of that place and came to America in 1885, six years after the arrival of his son, John, bringing with him his wife and children. He located in Kewanee, where he lived for twenty years, and then removed to Inglewood, California, which is his present place of residence. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna B. Anderson, was also born in Sweden. There they were reared and married and it was in that country that their entire family of ten children were born. All are yet living with the exception of Selma, who became the wife of Edward Lundee of Kewanee and died in 1903. Six of the surviving nine children are now residing in or near Los Angeles, California, while three are in Illinois, namely: John A.; Adolph, of Kewanee; and Mrs. Anna C. Skoog, of Springfield. Mr. and Mrs. Lindburg are now seventy-five years of age and are still very active. On the 7th of August, 1909, they celebrated their golden wedding at their home in Inglewood, California, on which occasion seven of their children and twenty grandchildren were present. Their two sons, John and Adolph, of Kewanee, were not there but were represented by their wives.

John A. Lindburg was educated in the public schools of Sweden and after coming to the United States attended night school to some extent, and also studied largely by himself in order to acquire a knowledge of the English language and also to better equip himself for life's practical duties. In 1880 he began working for the Haxtun Steam Heater Company of Kewanee, there learning the trade of boiler making. He was employed in that connection until 1888, when his health failing, he went west for a year. Upon his return he again engaged with the Haxtun Company, being employed in the foundry for three years. After leaving the services of that company he traveled extensively throughout the United States for two years, after which he returned to Kewanee and in 1894 was elected city treasurer for the term of 1894-95. His official record was a creditable one and on his retirement from office in 1896 he engaged in the confectionery business on Second street, but after a year removed to Third street near North Main where he remained for seven years. He built up an extensive trade, carrying on a profitable business until he sold out to A. R. Tuttle. In 1904 he turned his attention to the real-estate business and in December, 1907, opened his office in the McLean building on Second street, his

present location. He carries on an extensive business in western and southern lands and also handles some local property. He spent two summers—the seasons of 1906 and 1907, in Labrador, where he is interested in the Labrador Mining & Development Company.

On the 21st of December, 1893, Mr. Lindburg was married in Kewanee to Miss Ida C. Sandberg, a daughter of John and Charlotte (Josephson) Sandberg, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where they were reared and married. They came from Sweden in 1870 and for twenty-four years have been residents of Kewanee. Mr. Sandberg has devoted his entire time to contracting and building, in which business he is still active. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lindburg have been born two sons: George A., fourteen years of age, now attending high school; and John L., a youth of nine years.

In politics, Mr. Lindburg is a stalwart republican and is much interested in the work of the party and its progress, keeping well informed on all questions and issues of the day and thus supporting his position by intelligent argument. He has held office in the Swedish-American Republican Club of Henry county, of which he has been a member since 1885, and in which he has served as vice president, while at this writing, in the winter of 1909-10, he is treasurer. He also belongs to the Swedish-American Republican State League of Illinois with which he became associated on its organization. He is also a member of Norden Lodge, Independent Order of Svitiod at Kewanee, the lodge being a Swedish secret society with headquarters at Chicago. He has always encouraged his fellow countrymen to become American citizens as soon as the law would allow and has frequently assisted them in obtaining their naturalization papers. He has also aided them in securing work and acquainting themselves with the ways of this country and has fostered in them a spirit of loyalty to American institutions. He holds membership in the Swedish Lutheran church of Kewanee and with his family takes an active part in church work, for a number of years having been a member of the choir. His business record has been marked by steady progression resulting from the wise and careful use of each opportunity, and as time has gone on the worth of his work and his ideas has been demonstrated in the success which has followed his labors.

---

#### FRED B. GAMBLE.

The importance of insurance is being generally recognized and the amount of business done in every branch of this line of commercial activity is enormous, giving employment to the abilities and resources of many of the leading men of today. Kewanee supports several very successful business men whose object is to look after insurance affairs, and one of the most important is Fred B. Gamble, who is general agent for the Union Central Life Insurance Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and district agent for the farm department of the Continental Fire Insurance Company and the Connecticut Fire Insurance Company and also represents a number of other responsible insurance companies. Mr. Gamble was born in Kewanee, May 14, 1868, a son of Joseph R. and Maria P.

(Wooley) Gamble. The father is a retired contractor and builder, who came to this city in 1855 and was connected with the erection of some of the best business and residence property here.

Fred B. Gamble was educated in the Kewanee high school and at Knox College, where he spent two years. He then became a traveling salesman for the Western Tube Company and continued with them eight years, gaining very valuable experience. At the expiration of that period, however, he turned his attention to the insurance business and during the succeeding years has proven his fitness for this work. He writes an immense amount of insurance annually.

Mr. Gamble has three children, namely: Frederic Russell, Florence Isabell and Gertrude Augusta. His fraternal relations are pleasant and his membership embraces the Elks, the Red Men, the Knights of Pythias and the Eagles. His religious connection is with the Baptist church and he is also a member of the Young Men's Christian Association. Socially he belongs to the Commercial Club and the Kewanee Club and is one of the most popular men of Kewanee. He thoroughly understands every detail of the insurance business and because of his experience in it can control a business the proportions of which show a healthy increase with each succeeding year.

In 1909 Mr. Gamble was elected to the common council from the third ward on the labor ticket. While conserving the interests of his constituents, he also displays a broad-guaged policy toward the city at large and will without doubt make a fine record for himself in this office as he already has in business life.

---

### MORGAN BURGETT MACHESNEY.

Morgan Burgett Machesney, a progressive and enterprising agriculturist residing on section 29, Annawan township, was born in the house where he now lives, and the farm which he cultivates has been his place of abode from his birth to the present time. His natal day was July 6, 1874. His parents, James and Selinda (Burgett) Machesney, are mentioned at greater length in connection with the sketch of M. Howard Machesney, a brother of our subject.

Morgan B. Machesney received a good common-school education and grew to manhood under the parental roof. When twenty-one years of age he began to farm a part of his father's land and has thus been actively identified with agricultural interests to the present time, his labors in the fields being annually rewarded by bounteous harvests of golden grain. The neat and attractive appearance of the place indicates his careful supervision and practical and progressive methods, and he is widely recognized as one of the energetic and up-to-date farmers of the community.

On the 7th of September, 1898, in Annawan township, Mr. Machesney was united in marriage to Miss Nora Batten, a native of that township and a daughter of James and Julia Ann (Blin) Batten. They now have four children, namely: Lawrence E., who was born on the 6th of March, 1900; Bernice Irene, whose birth occurred July 21, 1901; Lewis Glenn, whose natal day was June 24, 1904; and Gladys, born October 4, 1905.

Mr. Machesney cast his first presidential ballot for William McKinley in 1896 and has always supported the men and measures of the republican party. He is now serving as a school director but has not been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his private affairs. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias at Annawan. Both he and his wife are widely and favorably known throughout the county in which their entire lives have been spent, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

---

### EDWARD P. LINCOLN.

Edward P. Lincoln, one of the representative farmers and fruit-growers of Kewanee township, has passed through many of the interesting experiences of pioneer life, for he has been a resident of Henry county since 1850. He was born in Sheldon, New York, February 9, 1837, a son of George and Olive (Needham) Lincoln, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Massachusetts. They emigrated to New York state by team in an early day. Dwight D. Needham, a brother of Mrs. Lincoln, at one time owned a tract one and one-half miles long and one-half mile wide north of Kewanee, which adjoined the city, and he also owned the site of the city at one time, so that the names of Lincoln and Needham are well known in Henry county.

In 1850 the Lincoln family's removal took place. The father was a traveling man and having visited Henry county decided to locate here. The family made the journey by way of the lakes to Chicago and were nearly a week on the trip. From Chicago they went to La Salle by canal, and from there teams conveyed them and their goods to Wethersfield—their destination. The country was almost all open prairie, and as they could not secure a house upon their arrival, they went to the home of a brother-in-law, Richard Dickinson, who lived on the northwest corner of Captain Howard's farm, now a part of Kewanee. Barron Grove, north of the town, was then common property. Wood was used for fuel and much valuable timber was sacrificed in this way. George Lincoln went to Dixon, the landoffice, and entered forty acres just west of the present home of Edward P. Lincoln. The father later secured more land and farmed it until his demise in 1876. His widow survived him until 1884.

During his first winter here, Edward P. Lincoln attended school held in a log house on the Bryan farm, and shortly after the Civil war he helped to build the Maunder school, of which he was a director for nearly twenty years. He was always very patriotic. During the war he, E. M. Wail, H. T. Lay, Martin Guillard and others used to meet in an upper room on Second street between Main and Tremont streets and they donated books and laid the foundation for the first public library of Kewanee. He was also a member of the Kewanee Debating Society, which met in the first school building ever erected in Kewanee, being located near the block occupied at present by the jewelry firm of Kreig & Giles. The club held several public debates, Lawyer Atwood, General Howe, Austin Sykes and Mr. Lincoln being among the speakers.

While he has devoted the better portion of his life to agricultural pursuits, Mr. Lincoln has been engaged in other lines of business. For some years he was a commercial salesman. He also taught school in Kewanee township, and, while he was acting as school director, he was also clerk of the board. He has always been a very strong republican, but has thrown his influence in favor of prohibition. At present Mr. Lincoln is farming and raising fruit on the old homestead and is making a success of his work, for he understands it thoroughly.

In 1866 Mr. Lincoln and Rebecca Aylesbury were married and they have three children, as follows: George D. is a real-estate dealer of Kewanee. Edward A., also a real-estate dealer, married Cherry B. Waggegan, of Bureau county, and they have one son, Edward Ernest. Orlie Dora is at home.

The family belong to the Congregational church, and Mr. Lincoln was an officer in the Sunday school for many years. He also was an official of the circulating library for a long time and has always taken a deep interest in anything that promised to prove beneficial to his church or community. He has held many important offices, has never failed in his duty and can look back with pride upon his long years of useful endeavor.

---

### JOHN JACKSON DARIN.

John Jackson Darin, agriculturist and stock raiser, of Phenix township, was born in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, February 9, 1825. He was the elder son of John Jackson Darin, Sr., a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. Bidding adieu to the Emerald isle amid the stormy scenes that beset that country during the years just preceding 1800, he sailed for America, stopping for a time at Philadelphia before finally settling in the vicinity of Pittsburg, then known as Fort Duquesne on the very border of the wild backwoods. The father was endowed with rugged health and sturdy habits accredited to Erin's sons, and it was well for there was need for health and thrift, for brain and brawn in those early days. He paid several visits to the Darin homestead on Pink Prairie, and at the time of his death was approaching his ninetieth birthday.

And so it was the subject of this sketch began his long and useful life in the Keystone state. Mr. Darin's boyhood was spent not unlike that of other Pennsylvania boys of that time and region. His education was obtained in the public schools and in the great university of practical experience. He had not yet attained his majority when he was given the position of lock tender on the Pennsylvania canal, between Apollo and Saltsburg, near his home. This place he filled until promoted to a clerkship in the canal warehouses of Leech & Company, at Pittsburg. It was while engaged in this work that he became acquainted with Miss Eleanor Clarke, who had just finished a course in the public schools of Allegheny.

Early in the '50s Mr. Darin became enthused with the reports coming from the New Eldorado, in the land by the Golden Gate, and early in 1852 he joined a party of young men who planned to make the voyage to California by sailing vessel via Cape Horn. When they reached New York, the company became sep-



ELEANOR CLARKE DARIN



JOHN JACKSON DARIN



arated, and Mr. Darin finally went without his companions, making the trip via the isthmus of Panama. From the isthmus to San Francisco he suffered greatly from exposure and privation. The vessel on which he had engaged passage proved to be old, poorly manned, and but scantily provisioned, while the greedy captain took on board double the number of passengers he could feed and quarter. When Mr. Darin bought his ticket he was assured that first class meals and a comfortable berth would be provided throughout the voyage. Once out at sea, however, the only fare provided consisted of "salt horse," sour beans and hard-tack, while his "stateroom berth" was on top of the crates and boxes on the upper deck, with the sky for a roof. The protests of passengers and crew finally bordered on mutiny and rebellion, and the captain was compelled to put in at a Mexican port and take on a store of provisions. Upon arrival at San Francisco Mr. Darin lost no time in getting to the heart of the section where placer mining was yielding good returns. Here for two years his rugged constitution enabled him to endure the homely fare and hard work of the mining camp without feeling any great hardship, and in that time he collected a goodly quantity of the precious yellow metal.

Early in the autumn of 1854 he returned to Pittsburg, where for a short time he tarried with his father, before hurrying on to Rushville in the Prairie state, to which point the Clarke family had removed from Allegheny. Coming first to Henry county, he purchased a farm on Pink Prairie, in Phenix township, then journeyed on to Schuyler county, where, on September 21, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor Clarke, who for nearly fifty years following was spared to be his faithful helpmeet, guide and counsellor. Mr. Darin resided on the old homestead up to the time of his death, thus rounding out a full half century in the one home. Often, when in a reminiscent mood, he would refer to his lack of practical farming experience when he settled in Henry county, and said he had to ask his wife and an obliging neighbor to teach him how to harness and hitch his team. Yet being endowed with that valuable quality "stickability" he steadily persevered, and by the practice of economy and frugality, he became one of the foremost farmers and stock raisers in Henry county, and from time to time farm after farm was added to the original homestead. In manner Mr. Darin was a man of quiet reserved habits and enjoyed excellent health. He was proud of the fact that he had rounded out a full three-quarters of a century before suffering an illness of sufficient severity to require the attendance of a physician at his home.

Mr. Darin filled various elective offices in his township. In politics he was a democrat, but in the days when war clouds darkened our country he was a firm believer in the doctrines advocating the abolition of slavery. His brother, Thomas H. Darin, was associated with him in farming when the Rebellion broke out, and enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteers, and died while suffering in the Rebel prison at Andersonville.

Mr. Darin several times journeyed back to visit his old Pennsylvania home, and in 1901, accompanied by his wife, he made a tour of the Pacific states, to view again the scenes of his experiences in the mining camps, and to visit relatives in California and Oregon, and this journey furnished them many pleasant thoughts during the remainder of their days. Mr. Darin gave substantial sup-

port to both church and school. He was a kind neighbor, an honorable, upright citizen, and a notable example of Henry county's self-made men,—one whose willing hands and determined head together with good habits and clean life made it but a natural consequence that he should succeed in his chosen field of labor.

When Mr. Darin came to Henry county, he found surrounding his new home a broad expanse of wild, virgin prairie carpeted thick with a luxuriant growth of wild blossoms of a pink hue nodding a welcome in the sunshine and breeze—a veritable "Pink Prairie." During his fifty years on the original farm he witnessed the laying off of this same expanse of prairie into a checkerboard of farms, and hundreds of beautiful homes, and bulging cribs and granaries and big red barns crowd the landscape where in 1854 the straggling log cabins of the settlers in the same region could readily be numbered on the fingers of one hand.

On the morning of October 8, 1904, Mr. Darin was called from earth to enjoy forever the Home not made by earthly hands, whither his good wife had preceded him, and where only the joys and noble thoughts and acts of this life can be remembered. Four sons and three daughters were left to honor his memory. But in a brief two weeks the eldest son, Clarke James, was called to rejoin the parents gone before.

He who has lived to labor and love has not lived in vain.

---

### ELEANOR CLARKE DARIN.

(A SON'S TRIBUTE.)

When our infancy is almost forgotten and our boyhood long departed, though it seems but as yesterday; when life settles down upon us and we doubt whether to call ourselves young any more, then it is good to steal away occasionally from all society and let the mind dwell upon the blessings of our golden yesterday. Far on the blue mountains of our dim childhood, toward which we ever turn and look, stand the mothers who marked out to us from thence our life;—the most blessed age must be forgotten ere we can forget the warmest heart. But, though we gather up all the tender memories, all the lights and shades of the heart, all the greetings, reunions, and home affections, yet we cannot paint a word-picture of that loving mother who is the subject of this sketch.

The records of the Clarke "Family Tree" trace back to the years preceding the discovery of America by Columbus. The Clarke annals previous to this are lost in the mist of the unrecorded history of Scotland.

About the year 1500 two of the Clarke brothers emigrated from Scotland to Ireland; one settled in Dublin, the other in County Tyrone. Doctor Adam Clarke, the celebrated commentator, theological writer and pioneer Wesleyan preacher, was a descendant of the former brother, and James Clarke, who was born in County Tyrone, in 1800, and came to America in 1801, father of Eleanor Clarke Darin, was a descendant of the other brother.

Rev. John Clarke, a pioneer Methodist preacher of Illinois, who was licensed to preach in 1829 writes thus of this brother James:

"My oldest brother, James, was endowed with a strong intellect, and being of studious habits he became early a good scholar. He both read and wrote a great deal. He was very outspoken on the subject of the abolition of slavery. At the age of eighteen he united with the Methodist church and at once began to hold meetings in the vicinity of Allegheny City. In this line he was very popular and attracted large congregations. He was strongly urged by the church to enter the ministry, but he constantly declined, although until his death he remained a devoted and liberal member of the church, nearly always sustaining an official relation to it. In the latter part of his life the abolition of slavery so engaged his sympathies and efforts that it seemed the controlling purpose of his life to labor for its success. It is thought that labor and exposure on a visit to Kansas in order to bear a part in its struggle for freedom occasioned his death, which occurred on board the steamboat at a landing almost at his home, September 15, 1855.

At Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, April 20, 1826, James Clarke and Miss Sarah Cooper were united in marriage, and to them, March 19, 1827, was born a daughter, Eleanor, the subject of this sketch.

Only a few years ago it was my privilege to accompany my mother on a visit to Allegheny City, where we sought out the old home, and there I visited the very room where was wrought that blessed miracle that gave the world the beautiful character,—the noble woman whose memory I now revere above all else in this world. Memory now throws a golden halo over the hills and vales where, through laughing childhood and more serious school days, grew to womanhood the best "sweetheart" I can ever know.

Early in September, 1854, there came to Rushville, in our Prairie state, whither Eleanor had removed in the early '50s with her parents, a bronzed and bearded young man fresh from the wilds of the mining camps of the new Golden state. This young man was young John Jackson Darin, the lad she had known as a bashful sweetheart in the Pennsylvania school days. He had returned from California to Pittsburg,—and thence he hurried on to Illinois to claim his own. There, September 21, 1854, these two lives were united, and then they set bravely out for a little vale in Henry county, which some nature lover had designated Pink Prairie, where for the next half century they were to grow old with the prairies, loving and laboring for their children. Seven times the Angel of Life visited this prairie home—seven times was the miracle of birth wrought, and this sainted soul tarried to bless the four daughters and three sons until they, too, had passed from youth to Grown-up Land. And of these seven the writer is the least worthy to tell of the three-quarters of a century this good woman trod life's pathway. Her strongest religion was the creed of kindness and helpfulness, though she was ever faithful in the faith of her forefathers. Ever ambitious for the advancement and education of her children in morality and mentality, she never failed in helping to support both school and church. She was a lovable woman, this mother who gave her full measure of love and help to her family and community through full fifty years in Henry county, and few now remain who knew her in the days when Life and Love and Pink Prairie were young.

In the early evening shadows of March 11, 1902, I said a last good night to this dear one, and she fell asleep to this earth. But in going she builded a bridge

for me, and some night I'll tread this bridge with willing feet from this grey old earth to the Green Hills Far Away, and there bid her good morning,—for She was my mother.

GEORGE LITTLE DARIN.

Sacramento, California, November, 1909.

---

### PETER G. GESTRIN.

Peter G. Gestrin, conducting a well appointed bakery establishment under the name of the Vienna Bakery, which is the oldest enterprise of the kind in Kewanee, was born in Omot, Sweden, June 16, 1866. His father, Hans Gestrin, a native of the same place, was born February 29, 1843, and when a young man joined the army there in accordance with the laws of that country, which compels each citizen to do so as soon as he attains his majority. After meeting the requirements of the country as to military service he took up the tailor's trade, which he followed until the fall of 1867. He then determined to seek a home in the new world, believing that he might have better business opportunities here, and with his wife and two children sailed for America. He settled first in Galesburg, Illinois, where he opened a tailor shop, there remaining for two years. He afterward removed to Kewanee, where he worked in the mine of the Lathrop Coal Company until 1894, when he retired from active business and spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. The first house which he occupied in Kewanee is now the oldest standing in the city. It has been closed but is maintained as a relic of pioneer times and is in charge of the Daughters of the Revolution. Mr. Gestrin long maintained a place among the respected and valued citizens of the community and passed away in December, 1907, esteemed by all who knew him. He married Christine Omark, who was born November 26, 1840, in Sweden and is now living in Kewanee at the age of sixty-nine years. She has long been a devoted member of the Swedish Lutheran church and has taken an active part in its work since her arrival in Henry county.

Peter G. Gestrin acquired his early education in the district schools of Kewanee township and afterward attended the Kewanee high school. Upon putting aside his text-books he went to work for the Haxtun Heater Company and continued with that enterprise when it became the property of the Western Tube Company and later of the National Tube Company, under which name it now operates. His first position with the Haxtun Company was that of errand boy, but he applied himself diligently to the mastery of every task assigned him and learned the molder's trade, in which capacity he was employed until 1890, when he was promoted to the superintendency of the core department and brass foundry. He thus served in a most capable and efficient manner until January, 1909, when he resigned in order to engage in business on his own account. He is now in partnership with Charles E. Moore of the Vienna Bakery, which is the oldest bakery in Kewanee and has a well established trade, receiving a very extensive patronage from neighboring towns. They have eleven people contin-

ually in their employ, and in addition to the manufacture and sale of bakery goods they conduct a first-class candy and ice cream factory, having the most improved machinery and modern methods for the conduct of the business.

On the 29th of October, 1890, Mr. Gestrin was married in Kewanee to Miss Clara Matilda Sandberg, a daughter of Jonas Sandberg, a native of Sweden, who located in Oneida, Illinois, at an early day and is now living in Kewanee. Mrs. Gestrin is a lady of considerable musical ability and was for fifteen years a member of the church choir. There are two children, who also take deep interest in music. Florence Viola, born November 20, 1893, is now a junior in the high school. Carl Leland, born July 24, 1898, is attending the public schools.

In politics Mr. Gestrin is a staunch republican, always taking an active interest in local affairs but avoiding public office. He is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men of Kewanee and is now serving as captain of George Washington Encampment of the uniform rank, this being the highest local office. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Swedish Sick Fund Society. He is likewise identified with the Pocahontas Society, the auxiliary to the Red Men. Both he and his wife are prominent and active workers in the Swedish Lutheran church, with which he has been identified for the past thirty years. He is a member of the choir and always takes an active part in the business and social affairs of the church as well and, in fact, does everything in his power to promote the interest and upbuilding of the society. His life has been a busy, industrious and useful one, and his relative worth is widely recognized by his fellow townsmen.

---

#### ANDREW G. HULTING.

Hard, indefatigable work has accomplished many things seemingly impossible. It is a man's best asset when he leaves his native land to make a home in the American country that is so inviting to those of European birth. Not only has Andrew G. Hulting made a place for himself here but he has made it possible for other members of his family—brothers, sister and parents—to come and gain a new start in life. On his farm on section 32, Geneseo township, Mr. Hulting now follows general farming and breeds fine stock, making a specialty of shorthorn Durham cattle. He was born about half of a Swedish mile or three English miles south of the village of Folavik, in the western part of Sweden, on the 7th of May, 1848, and is a son of Per and Kisa (Lawson) Hulting. The mother died a few hours after her son's birth, and the father married Miss Hannah Anderson, the wife of the second union being the only mother Mr. Hulting ever knew. As he grew to manhood he worked on a farm and also in a grist-mill, in which he learned the miller's trade, and when he had attained his majority a neighbor offered to loan him the money with which to come to America. It seemed a golden opportunity that should be seized and within eight days after the aid was proffered he had started on his journey to the new world.

Mr. Hulting set out by steamer from Gottenburg May 1, landed in England, where he remained a short time, and then took ship for the United States, reach-

ing Geneseo, Illinois, June 2, 1869. Here he was employed on a farm for twelve dollars a month through the summer and during the winter did chores for his board and for the privilege of attending school. In the nine years that he worked for one man he saved enough to enable him to buy a team and rent a farm in Munson township, where he made a home for himself. He continued to rent for a number of years subsequent to his marriage and about 1898 bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Geneseo township. All the buildings, except the house, that are now standing upon the land are the result of his efforts, as are also the numerous improvements that bespeak his skill as an industrious and thrifty tiller of the soil. He had done more, however, than make his own way in America; he sent the money which made it possible for one of his brothers and a sister to come here and start life under favorable conditions. The father and mother have since passed away, but the rest of the family are living. John Peter makes his home in Munson township. Matilda married John Lawson and lives in Cambridge. Alfred also resides in Cambridge.

Mr. Hulting has been married twice. The bride of his first union, whom he wedded March 14, 1879, was Miss Anna Louise Johnson. She was of Swedish nativity and came to this country when of adult age, having been influenced to make the long journey by the stories of better chances of making a living here which her uncle had sent to his relatives in the old country. In 1887 Mrs. Hulting died leaving four children: John Albert, a farmer of Geneseo township; Carl Oscar, who lives at home; Gustav Edwin, also at home; and Hilda Almeda, who married Charles W. Jager. On the 23d of April, 1889, Mr. Hulting married Miss Hannah Miller, who was born in Sweden and came to the United States in her young womanhood. Of the second marriage there has been one child born, Esther Elizabeth. Mrs. Hannah Hulting has also passed away, her death having occurred April 27, 1907.

In 1908 Mr. Hulting was able to make a long contemplated trip to his native land. At his birthplace he found utter strangers and only an aunt and an uncle in the neighborhood, for his immediate family had come to America. Since becoming a citizen of this republic Mr. Hulting has given his support to the republican party but has not been an office seeker. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he has for many years been a deacon, and he contributed toward the erection of a new church edifice. A hard working man, others have profited by his industry, and the example he sets to his neighbors—that of earnest toil and frugality—is one that might be of general profit.

---

#### DWIGHT A. LINCOLN.

The name of Dwight A. Lincoln is enshrined in the memory of his family as well as enrolled upon the register of the country he died in defending, for he was one of the boys in blue who did not return from the conflict during the great Civil war. He was born in 1841 in New York state, a son of George Lincoln and brother of Edward P. Lincoln, and was a graduate of the Kewanee

high school. He enlisted as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry in 1861 and was with his regiment continuously until the battle of Stone River, where he was wounded and was in the hands of the enemy for three days. Although then transferred to the Union ranks it was too late, and he died in the Church Hospital of Nashville, Tennessee, in January, 1863.

A very interesting letter was received by Edward P. Lincoln, dated April 3, 1862, in camp in Missouri about five miles from Island No. 10. It gives a very graphic account of the situation at that time, and its brave words touch the heart of the reader when it is remembered that the writer was soon thereafter called upon to render up his life for the cause he loved so dearly.

Dear Brother:—

I believe you owe me a letter yet in return for one I wrote you at Fort Holt, but as I have plenty of time I thought I would inform you of the proceedings of the last week. There has been nothing of importance happened though except the spiking of a Rebel battery of six large guns. Co. A has been on picket once since I wrote you, but nothing of importance took place. In the morning when we were on picket we could hear the Rebels on the Island beating reveille and hear them mounting guard quite plain.

If you read the Tribune you will hear most of what is going on here, but there is one thing you probably have not seen. That is the daring deed executed by Colonel Roberts and Company A, Tuesday while we were on shore for dress parade we were ordered on board the Rob Roy and were taken right down to the Benton the flag gunboat on which Commodore Foote stays.

There we found out that our destination was to spike a Rebel battery on the Tennessee shore, where there were some big guns which stopped the gunboats from coming down to play on the Island.

Then Commodore Foote told the colonel that he would give him five yawls and fifty men to row them, and the colonel accepted them. Our arms and ammunition were inspected, and the colonel told us that our object was to spike the Rebel battery, and that we must succeed or die in the attempt. We were ordered to put five loads in before we left the boat. Then we were divided off into five squads and commanders appointed to each squad. Colonel Roberts and Sergeant Atwater were commanders of the quad and I was in (Squad No. 1). We were put in yawl Benton which went ahead.

All ready we ran into the edge of the timber and waited for the moon to go down. A little after eleven when the moon had sunk to rest and the sky had clouded over and had the appearance of rain, the colonel gave orders to start. Our boat with a crew of twenty, colonel and all, took the lead. We had spike hammers and hand grenades and muffled oars. We kept close to the fort for we knew that if they saw us soon enough they could open fire upon us from their battery and blow us sky high. My position was right in the bow of the Benton. We sailed along down silently and fearlessly till we were right upon the battery before we know it. When we were within about a rod of the shore the first notice we had of our nearness to the battery was two shots from the Rebels sentries guarding the guns. I think they were about the length of our house from me. The boatman shoved the boat right in where the shots came from and we jumped

ashore expecting to find some Rebels there, but they had fled. The next thing we did was to spike their guns which were seven in number. Then we jumped into our boats and put back.

When we got aboard of the Rob Roy again there was a heavy thunder storm came on, which came as near wrecking us as I want to be. It frightened all of us considerable. We would no doubt have been wrecked if we had not went up alongside of a boat to report to Colonel Buford and tied up. As it was the boat dipped water. One of the deck hands went overboard and was drowned.

Sergeant Atwater spiked three of the guns; the colonel one, but as the mail is going right away I will close. Love to all.

D. A. LINCOLN.

In recognition of this act, Congress tendered a note of thanks to the brave men that composed the company and their commander, this being one of two incidents in which congress passed a vote of thanks during the Civil war.

---

### JULIUS VAN COUTREN.

Julius Van Coutren, a liquor dealer of Kewanee, was born in Belgium, May 1, 1869. His father, also a native of that land, came to America with his family of nine children in 1884 and took up his abode upon a farm at Atkinson, Illinois. For seven years he carried on general agricultural pursuits but in 1891 retired from active life and removed to Kewanee, where he is now living at the age of sixty-eight years. He married Stephanie Van Hicke, a daughter of Joseph Van Hicke, also of Belgium, and she is now living at the age of sixty-six years.

Pursuing his education in his native country, Julius Van Coutren was at length graduated from the public schools of Belgium, but the educational system of that country is different from our own, as the students have to pay a tuition. He also attended school in America for about three years, and after putting aside his text-books he worked on the home farm until twenty-two years of age, when he came to Kewanee and secured employment in the shops of the Haxtun Steam Heater Company, there remaining for three years. He afterward accepted the position of bar tender for Garrett Neagle, now retired, but still living in this city. Mr. Van Coutren thus served for five years and when Mr. Neagle sold his business to Charles Knight remained with the latter for two years. In 1897 he entered into partnership with Mr. Neagle in the conduct of a liquor business on Third street, the business relation being maintained for three years, when Mr. Van Coutren bought out his partner and removed to his present location at No. 225 West Third street at the corner of North Chestnut. He remodeled the entire place, putting in new fixtures and equipments, making his place of business attractive in every particular. In 1904, he admitted his brother Frank to a partnership, and they now have the neatest, best arranged and most orderly bar in Kewanee. The equipments are of a very handsome character, and the saloon is conducted according to the strictest business principles. Mr. Van Coutren has won success in the undertaking and is now the owner of considerable property, including a farm of three hundred and twenty

acres in Annawan township, which is rented. He also has a farm of seven hundred and twenty acres in Missouri and owns stock in the Armory Hall in Kewanee and has mining interests in the gold fields among the Black Hills. He is also the owner of his own home in Kewanee.

On the 4th of June, 1896, Mr. Van Coutren was married in this city to Miss Emily Bohart, a daughter of Frank Bohart, of Atkinson, Illinois. Their children are: Grace and Alma, aged twelve and five years.

In politics Mr. Van Coutren is a democrat, where national issues are involved, but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He served for two terms as a member of the board of alderman from the first ward. He belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles and was one of the founders of the first Belgian church in Kewanee, with Father Conrad as their first priest. He takes an active interest in the work of the church, as does also his wife. He has ever manifested a sincere interest in those of his own nationality who have sought homes in this part of the state, giving freely of his advice and frequently of his means to assist those who have come here. In fact he has been instrumental in securing most of the Belgian people in Kewanee.

---

#### WARREN D. LESTER.

Warren D. Lester, life-long farmer and public auctioneer and a man widely known for his many kindly traits of character and unflinching honesty of purpose, is a native of Henry county, having been born in Wethersfield township, September 1, 1864, a son of Champlain and Ann (McCreath) Lester. The former was a native of Henry county, but his wife was born in Scotland. The father enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and served from 1862 to 1865. His death occurred when he was only thirty-nine years old. His widow survives and makes her home at Angiola, California, although for some years after her husband's death in Carroll county, Iowa, she lived in Wethersfield, Illinois, to which she returned in her affliction.

Warren D. Lester was reared to farm life while attending public school at Wethersfield, and he understands every detail of agriculture, operating his fine farm of one hundred and forty acres with a skill that gives him a good annual income. For fourteen years, he has given some of his attention to auctioneering, making a specialty of farm property and live stock. He has auctioned off some of the best blooded hogs and cattle ever sold in Henry county. His fame as an auctioneer has not only spread throughout Henry county, but into the adjoining territory and his services are in great demand.

On February 10, 1886, Mr. Lester married Iva Weston, a daughter of George and Helen Weston, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. They have no children but have brought up as their own many little unfortunates and given them excellent educational advantages. In this, they have but followed the noble example set by the parents of Mrs. Lester who also reared many outside their own family. One of the girls reared by Mr. and Mrs. Lester became

a teacher in the public schools and later a missionary and they are very proud of their adopted daughter. They now have a young lady whom they have reared and educated and who is an excellent musician, and another daughter five years old at this writing.

Mr. Lester's work as a public official has been marked by good common sense and a thorough appreciation of the best methods of procedure. For many years he gave the school board the benefit of his experience as a director, and has served three terms as highway commissioner. He was the first commissioner to use the "King split log" drags on the road, which are now recognized as so universally beneficial, and he has inaugurated many other changes that have worked to the good of the community. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Commercial Club of Kewanee and is extremely popular in both organizations. Big-hearted, loyal to his friends, energetic and persistent, Mr. Lester is one of the best citizens of Henry county and has friends everywhere.

---

### JESSE L. LAMONT.

Jesse L. Lamont, a farmer of Geneseo township, who has given a great deal of his attention to the breeding of pure blooded Hereford cattle, was born in Lloydtown, York county, Canada, November 22, 1848, and is a son of Daniel and Mary (Lloyd) Lamont. The former was born at Mull, Scotland, in March, 1818, and was a son of Duncan and Mary (Campbell) Lamont. He was about two years of age when his parents left their home in the old country to come to this world. Duncan Lamont, however, died on the ocean journey, and as his widow would not permit his body to be buried at sea the ship was compelled to stop at an island en route. Mrs. Lamont, left a widow with seven children, the youngest an infant in arms, located in Caledon, Canada, where she bought land, and although it was covered with timber she made a home for her children and gave them a good education. Daniel grew up at home and learned the trade of a miller, which he followed through his active life. His wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was a daughter of Jesse and Phebe (Crossley) Lloyd. The former was born in Pennsylvania, a son of James Lloyd, was of Welsh descent and of Quaker faith, and was reared in the state of his birth. Shortly after his marriage, which in all probability occurred in Pennsylvania, he went to Canada, locating in the heart of the wilderness, at what is now known as Lloydtown, named in his memory. He chose the spot on account of the water power and there erected grist and saw mills. As he owned a large tract of land he soon became a man of wealth and prominent in the affairs of his locality. In an advisory way, was connected with the reformers of the great revolution and his influence was considered important enough by the British government to warrant a price being put upon his life and those of his two companions, Jacob Blount and Tom Brown, so that the three fled to the United States. Seeing here also notices of a reward for their apprehension, they went to Indiana, where Jesse Lloyd sickened and died. His family, however, remained in Canada,

where his widow lived to the advanced age of ninety-six, and where one of his sons, an uncle of Jesse L. Lamont, of this review, is still in possession of the old homestead. In 1864, Daniel Lamont brought his family to Illinois and located in Como, Whiteside county, where he followed his trade until his death, which occurred in November, 1901. His wife is still living in Como at the age of eighty-six years. They had ten children: Asenath, who married James Hopkins and lives at Como, Whiteside county, Illinois and they have five children; Flora, who unmarried lives at Sterling, Illinois; John, who married Miss Josephine Bradford and lives in Freeport, Illinois, where he is rearing a family of five children; Jesse L., of this sketch; Susan, who was the wife of Joseph Morrison and died at Stewart, Iowa, leaving three children; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Charity, who was the wife of Henry Partridge and died in Whiteside county, leaving five children; Emily, who passed away while still unmarried; Washington Marion, a bachelor, living in Silver City, South Dakota; and Mary Ida, who died single.

Jesse L. Lamont was about sixteen years of age when his parents came to Illinois, and as he had received a good common school education in the land of his birth he here began to work for his living. He was permitted to keep all of his wages, the greater part of which he hoped to be able to save. After working for different farmers of Whiteside county, he came to Henry county, where for two years he herded cattle. In 1872, he married and began his life as a farmer. For two years he rented land and then bought ninety-one acres in Yorktown, which he sold four or five years later and engaged in mercantile business in Annawan. The venture was most unfortunate, however, for in five years he had lost all his property and was compelled to return to renting. For a period of eight years he toiled as a tenant in Atkinson township and then bought some land south of Geneseo, on which he farmed for about four years. Selling that he went to Whiteside county, where he had purchased two hundred and forty acres, on which he lived for seven years, coming at the end of that time to the place he owns in Geneseo township. This consists of eighty acres on section 22, for which he paid at the rate of one hundred and ten dollars an acre, but which in 1909 brought two hundred and twenty-five dollars, the banner price. In the latter '80s Mr. Lamont began the breeding of a high grade of Hereford cattle and in 1899 began to breed pure blooded animals entirely and has since devoted himself to that phase of the stock business. He has exhibited at the various fairs in Cambridge, Kewanee, Princeton, Aledo and Kankakee, winning first prize in each. He also exhibited at the state fair in Des Moines, Iowa, where his animals received fourth place. Ambitious and a man of executive ability, he has attained to a high place in the ranks of the agriculturists of his township. He has recently disposed of his farm here and contemplates retiring to the city of Geneseo, but he still retains possession of the two hundred and forty acres of arable land he owns in Clarke county, Iowa, and so will not soon lose his sense of relationship with the life to which the best years of his manhood have been devoted.

In Atkinson, March 19, 1872, Mr. Lamont wedded Miss Mary J. Pritchard, of Alba township. She was born in County Down, Grey Abbey, Ireland, and was eleven years of age when her parents, Henry and Mary (Boyd) Pritchard,

came to America. The family were eleven days in crossing the ocean, and after reaching our shores located in Alba township, Henry county, Illinois. Mrs. Lamont was the ninth in order of birth in a family of ten children born to her father through his two marriages: William, died at Mitchellville, Iowa, leaving one child; James, lives in Oregon; Samuel, is a resident of Alba township; Henry, passed away, leaving six children; Alex also died, leaving three children; Alice became the wife of John Pritchard and lives in Ireland on the old home place; Robert, is a resident of Geneseo and has four children; Hugh also lives in Geneseo and has two children; Mary is now Mrs. Lamont; and Sarah is the wife of Samuel McCullough and lives in Marne, Iowa, where she is rearing her six children.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lamont. Myrtle married Walter Cady, whose sketch appears in another part of this work. William H., married Miss Lavinia Hill and lives near Prophetstown, Whiteside county. They have three children: Lloyd, Irene and Millard. Alice Mabel became the wife of Clarence Arnett, of Whiteside county, and has a daughter, Alice M. May. Ida died at the age of five years. Edwin Lloyd is at home, as is Maude Irene, the youngest of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamont and their children are members of the Congregational church, of which he is a trustee. While he lived in Atkinson township and in Whiteside county he was for a number of years superintendent of Sunday schools. Politically he is a republican and a man deeply concerned for the public welfare, especially for the advancement of schools. For four terms he served as school director, while he was a resident of Atkinson township. In that period he served as assessor for two years, fulfilling his duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. While a citizen of Annawan, he joined the ranks of the Masons and is now a loyal member of Stewart lodge.

---

### SAMUEL MOCROFT.

Samuel Mocroft, who is engaged in farming his fertile one hundred and sixty acres of rich Henry county land, is an excellent type of the agriculturist who has devoted his life to this line of business activity. All of his energies have been directed toward the improvement and development of his property, and he has succeeded in gleaning from his land a good annual income. He was born in 1850 on his present farm in Kewanee township and is a son of William and Jemima (Botcrell) Mocroft. The father was a native of England, who came to the United States in search of a broader field of endeavor for he was a Methodist minister as well as a farmer.

Samuel Mocroft's boyhood was spent upon the farm his father bought in Kewanee township, and he attended the school of his neighborhood, of which later he became school director and held that office for ten years, during which time he tried to advance its standard of excellence and yet at the time not run the district into any unnecessary expense.

In 1880 Mr. Mocroft married Mary Kirman, of Neponset, and they have had three children, as follows: George P., a farmer; and Fannie E. and Carrie May, both at home. In politics Mr. Mocroft is affiliated with the republican party, and he is interested in securing its success. He located on his father's homestead in 1876 and it is a satisfaction to him that this has always been his home and that his friends are those of a lifetime. By them he is respected and he is recognized as one of the good farmers of his township.

---

### DANIEL SNYDER.

Daniel Snyder, deceased, who was one of the best known men of Henry county and a true-hearted, loyal friend and kindly neighbor, was numbered among the pioneers of this part of the state, having come to the county in 1851. He was born in Stromsburg, York county, Pennsylvania, December 15, 1824, and was one of ten children born to Michael and Ann Snyder. There were six sons and four daughters and in 1909 two sons and one daughter still survive.

In 1829, when he was five years old, Daniel Snyder's parents removed to Steubenville, Ohio, and there he attended the primitive school of the day during the winter months. The boys often played tricks upon their teacher but profited by his instruction. In 1845, Daniel Snyder, went to Coolville, Athens county, with his father, and there he was married February 24, 1847, to Margaret Collins, who passed away August 4, 1902, nearly five years before her husband, who died June 4, 1907, at the age of eighty-three years. Their children were six in number, as follows: Aurilla, born July 17, 1849, married James Beebe, and died October 9, 1908; Le Roy P. was born March 27, 1852; Rollin F., was born November 27, 1854; Laura A., born November 9, 1856, married Robert Martin and died August 2, 1887; Charles E., was born July 3, 1859; and Franklin D., was born December 28, 1863.

On April 1, 1851, Mr. Snyder left Ohio for Illinois, and arrived here on the fifteenth of the same month. The journey was made down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, landing being made at Peoria. When he arrived there, he had only five dollars and he had borrowed it from his brother-in-law. A party of seven left immediately for Henry county, all but the women walking most of the way. They went direct to the home of William Collins, who had come to Henry county in 1850, and here they remained until Mr. Snyder built a house on his own land at the edge of the timber. This land he had purchased during the summer and was forty acres in extent, on the old State road in Burns township, still in possession of the family. He spent his first Christmas day in Illinois in the newly completed house and was thankful to get settled. That winter was bitterly cold, and the ink froze on his quill pen as he used it in writing. He rented a log cabin while building his house and paid thirty-seven cents for its use. The first Fourth of July in this state was spent by the neighbors in Coulter's timber east of Kewanee, near John Ladd's farm.

Mr. Snyder had many experiences and loved to dwell upon them as declining years gave him time for talking over pioneer days. One year he sold

corn for ten cents per bushel, and at the close of the war he sold his hogs at fourteen dollars per hundredweight. He split the rails to fence his one hundred and sixty acre farm and later cross fenced his place with hedge. When he arrived in Henry county there were no roads and when they wanted to reach a certain point, they simply drove across the prairie in the direction it was supposed to be. Mr. Snyder hauled all the lumber he used in building his first house from Henry on the Illinois river, and all of the dry goods and groceries used by his family were purchased by him at the two little stores in Wethersfield. In the fall of 1854 he saw the first locomotive on the newly built Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. During all of the years between 1851 and 1887, when he moved to the Vormouth place on the Cambridge road and built the house that remained his home until his demise, he followed his trade of carpentering with the exception of a few years in the '60s when he farmed. Between 1856 and 1860 he built the schoolhouse known as the Bobtown school, where most of his children attended, this being the first in Kewanee township.

Mr. Snyder cast his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce, and he saw Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, McKinley and Roosevelt, while in the presidential chair and was an enthusiastic republican. He had the privilege of hearing the Lincoln-Douglas debate and well remembered the Swedish settlers passing through the township walking to Bishop Hill. One time he bought a cow with the understanding that he was not to pay for it until fall, but the man, needing money, came to collect, and so scarce was money that he gladly accepted the ten cents Mr. Snyder gave him, in part payment. This ten cents was all the money Mr. Snyder had at that time. For years he was known as "Uncle Dan" and was beloved by all who knew him. Up to the time of his death he was in moderate health and could easily read common print with the aid of glasses. He never aspired to be a great man, but possessed simple tastes and those honest characteristics that were often found among the sturdy pioneers of Henry county when a man succeeded only through hard work and rigid economy.

---

#### WILLIAM ALBERT OFFERLE.

William Albert Offerle is well known as a member of the firm of Lager & Offerle, successful clothing merchants. He was born in this city, October 1, 1872, and is a son of Albert F. and Caroline J. (Dannenfelser) Offerle, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Geneseo, Illinois, respectively. The paternal grandfather was George J. Offerle, who came to America from Alsace, which was then under the dominion of France, but the family was of German lineage and the members of the household spoke both the German and French languages. Having crossed the Atlantic, George J. Offerle settled in Warren, Pennsylvania, where he was married, the lady of his choice being Magdalene Reig. Both he and his wife died in Geneseo when more than sixty years of age. They had a family of nine children who reached mature years, namely: Albert; Lena, the wife of Philip Rapp; Edward, deceased; Frank; Belle; Anna, the wife of J. V. Laver; Louis; Freeman; and Hattie, the wife of C. E. Hapgood.

Tracing back the maternal ancestry of Mr. Offerle, it is found that he comes in that line from ancestors who lived in Lorraine, also one of the border provinces which at times has belonged to Germany and again to France. The grandfather was Frederick Dannenfelser, who cast in his lot with the early settlers of Phenix township, Henry county, Illinois. His original home there was built of logs and he lived in true frontier style but as the years passed he added good buildings to his place and improved it according to more modern methods. A number of years later he removed with his family to Geneseo where he died at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-four. They had a large family, as follows: Jacob, deceased; William; Elizabeth, the wife of John O. Freed; Fred; Christina, the wife of F. E. Gresser; Caroline J., the mother of our subject; and Julia, the wife of S. S. Ott.

Albert F. Offerle, the father of William A. Offerle, became a shoemaker in Warren, Pennsylvania, and when a young man accompanied his parents on their removal to Geneseo, where he continued to reside until the closing years of his life which were passed in Helena, Montana. He died in the '90s and is still survived by his wife. They belonged to the German Evangelical Association and their many substantial qualities won for them high regard wherever they were known. There were three children in the family and the younger son, Roy G. F., is represented elsewhere in this volume. Another son, Perry, died in infancy.

William A. Offerle was reared in Geneseo where he has made his home to the present time. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges until he had mastered the branches of learning therein taught and later he pursued a business course in Northwestern Normal. He then began clerking in the store of E. A. Cragin, spending little more than a year in that employ, after which he secured a clerkship in the clothing store of M. Nusbaum & Company in 1890. In 1893, he formed a partnership with Carl J. Lager and they purchased the business of Nusbaum & Company. In 1897 they erected what is known as the Lager & Offerle block, a fine brick structure in which they now carry on their clothing business. They have, however, two fine stores in Geneseo, one of them being conducted under the name of the Model, while the other is carried on under the firm style of Lager & Offerle. They are enterprising merchants whose business ability is manifest in the success which is attending their efforts, their patronage being extensive and desirable.

On the 1st of June, 1898, Mr. Offerle was united in marriage to Miss Lois J. Hall, a daughter of William H. and Naomi (Brush) Hall. There is one son of that marriage, Robert Hall Offerle. The parents are members of the Unitarian church and Mr. Offerle is prominent in Masonry, having attained high degree in the craft. He belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, F. & A. M.; Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Rock Island Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Kaaba Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport.

His political endorsement is given to the republican party and while he does not seek office he is interested in matters of citizenship to the extent of giving generous support to every measure or movement calculated to prove of public good. He has always lived in Geneseo and the fact that many of his

stanchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is an indication of the fact that his life has displayed many sterling characteristics, being in conformity with the high principles of honorable manhood. A genial manner, unfailing courtesy and social disposition have also rendered him popular with all with whom he has been brought in contact.

---

### ANSON CALKINS.

Anson Calkins, deceased, who during the years of his activity was one of the farmers of Oxford township and the founder of the village of Alpha, was born in Columbia county, New York, November 14, 1818. His parents, Elijah and Philina (Coleman) Calkins, came to Illinois in 1856, after their son Anson had returned from this state to his old home to get them. They lived for a time with him in Alpha and then went to live with a daughter, Mrs. Cyrus Robbins, in Knox county. There the father died in the spring of 1858, though his widow lived almost twenty years longer, her death occurring in August, 1878, at the home of her son in Alpha.

Anson Calkins came to Illinois in 1841 and two years later located in Oxford township, Henry county, where he purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land, on part of which the village of Alpha now stands. A carpenter by trade, he put up his own house, which is still standing, though it had been enlarged and remodeled. In 1847 he married and commenced farming, though he still followed his trade whenever there was demand for his services. He also established a nursery in connection with his agricultural interests, which was the first, and for many years the only one, in this part of the state. The venture proved successful, but as the responsibilities of his farm and stock increased, he was compelled to abandon it. With the foresight of the true man of business he invested heavily in land and at one time owned sufficient to be able to give each of his five surviving children a farm of two hundred acres, while he still retained a good sized tract of land for himself. But it is as the father and founder of the village of Alpha that he deserves to be remembered, for he had the ground surveyed and plotted and when the town was established he became very active in all of its affairs. Although on account of his age he could not enter the ranks of the Union army, he rendered his country just as efficient service by encouraging the younger men to enlist and by aiding the government in all possible ways. In short his life was one of wide-reaching activity, and when, on the 20th of July, 1895, he was released from the cares of this world he enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

On the 20th of April, 1847, Mr. Calkins wedded Miss Hulda Griffin, a daughter of John and Mary (Hoag) Griffin. The father was a native of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, while his wife was born in Columbia county, New York. They were married in the latter state and then went to live in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, where their eight children, five sons and three daughters, were born. In 1841 the family removed to Illinois, locating in Mercer



ANSON CALKINS



county, at what was then known as Stewart's Corners but now has the name of Viola. There Mr. Griffin bought land and engaged in farming, but as he was in poor health most of the work devolved upon his sons, who were just entering manhood. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and his son, Henry G. Griffin, fought on the Union side in the war of the Rebellion. During the progress of the latter war, although he was beyond the age limit, Henry G. Griffin enlisted in the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and, being captured, was confined in Libby prison, at Macon, Georgia, and at Charleston, South Carolina, in all a period of sixteen months. Toward the close of the war he was liberated and as might be expected his return home was greeted with great rejoicing. But even then he did not resign himself to the arts of peace; on the contrary he rejoined his regiment and served throughout the remainder of the war with distinction, being mustered out with the rank of lieutenant.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Calkins began housekeeping on the farm on which the village of Alpha is now situated and in the house which Mr. Calkins had built and which is the home of his widow today, though it has been added to and improved as the years have gone by. Their union was blessed with ten children, only four of whom are living today. They were Myra P., deceased; Mary E., the wife of Ira K. Frankenburger, a farmer of Oxford township; James B., of Alpha; Lucia M., deceased; John F., a farmer of Oxford township; Owen L., deceased; Orlo E., deceased; Winfield, of Kinderhook, Illinois; Clarence, deceased; and Newton, also deceased.

In politics Mr. Calkins was a whig and later became a republican when that party was organized. Active in public affairs, he from time to time served the township in various capacities, among which may be mentioned that of assessor and a member of the school board. He was a man whose word was his bond and none stood higher in the community, for he was always ready with his influence and support to aid all movements calculated to advance the best interests of the little village which he did so much to start on the road to a healthy growth. Widely known, he was also highly esteemed and when death called him he was deeply mourned as a citizen, a friend and a husband and father. In the cemetery in Oxford, where five of his children had previously been buried, his remains were laid to rest. He was seventy-seven years of age at the time. His widow still survives.

---

### JOHN F. CALKINS.

John F. Calkins, a son of the preceding and a farmer of Oxford township, was born in the house which is historic in the family annals, for it was the building erected by his father when he first located in this township, that in which he and his wife were married and went to housekeeping and which was his home during his lifetime and is still the home of his widow. The son was born on the 1st of December, 1856, and spent his boyhood upon the home place. As he became able he assisted his father in the farm work and in the various industries in which the older man was interested. He completed the course of

instruction given by the public school of his native village of Alpha, but on account of weakened eyesight was prevented from continuing with his education. He accordingly devoted himself to the work of the farm and in 1879, when he married, took up the pursuit of agriculture on his own account. He owns a farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres on the outskirts of the village of Alpha, and this has been his home and the scene of his labors for the last thirty years. It is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. In connection with general farming, Mr. Calkins has also given his attention to the raising and feeding of stock and as he is progressive and enterprising, he has attained to a high degree of prosperity. The land is regarded as one of the choicest tracts of Oxford township, while the house, with its location and surroundings, is one of the most attractive in the neighborhood.

On the 28th of January, 1879, Mr. Calkins was united in marriage to Miss Elvira Elliott, who was born near Youngstown, Ohio, a daughter of Willard and Mary (Urmson) Elliott. The father was born in New Hampshire and the mother in Virginia. Mr. Elliott died when Mrs. Calkins was but four years old. In the course of years her mother married Charles Elliott, a brother of her former husband, and about 1867 the family came to Illinois, settling in Oxford township, Henry county. To Mr. and Mrs. Calkins have been born five daughters: Effie A., the wife of Richard Timberlake, a farmer of Oxford township; Edna P., who lives at home; Mary H., who is the wife of Harry Stitt, of Kansas; Stella and Frances W., who live at home. All of the children have been given the advantages of a good education, the older girls having graduated from the Alpha high school, which the youngest is still attending. Their home is one of generous hospitality, and the family are prominent in the social life of the village. Fond of music and good literature, with which they are abundantly supplied, they are also factors in the intellectual and cultured interests of the community. Mrs. Calkins and her daughters are members of the Baptist church, of which, though he is not a member, Mr. Calkins is a generous supporter. In his party affiliations he is a republican, although he is not an active participant in political affairs. He is yet ever interested in public matters and is well informed on national as well as local issues, and is regarded as a citizen of great public spirit whose influence is always given to progressive measures. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and, with his wife and daughter Edna, is a member of the Fraternal Tribune. A man of high worth and sterling integrity, he is widely respected and honored in the community in which he lives.

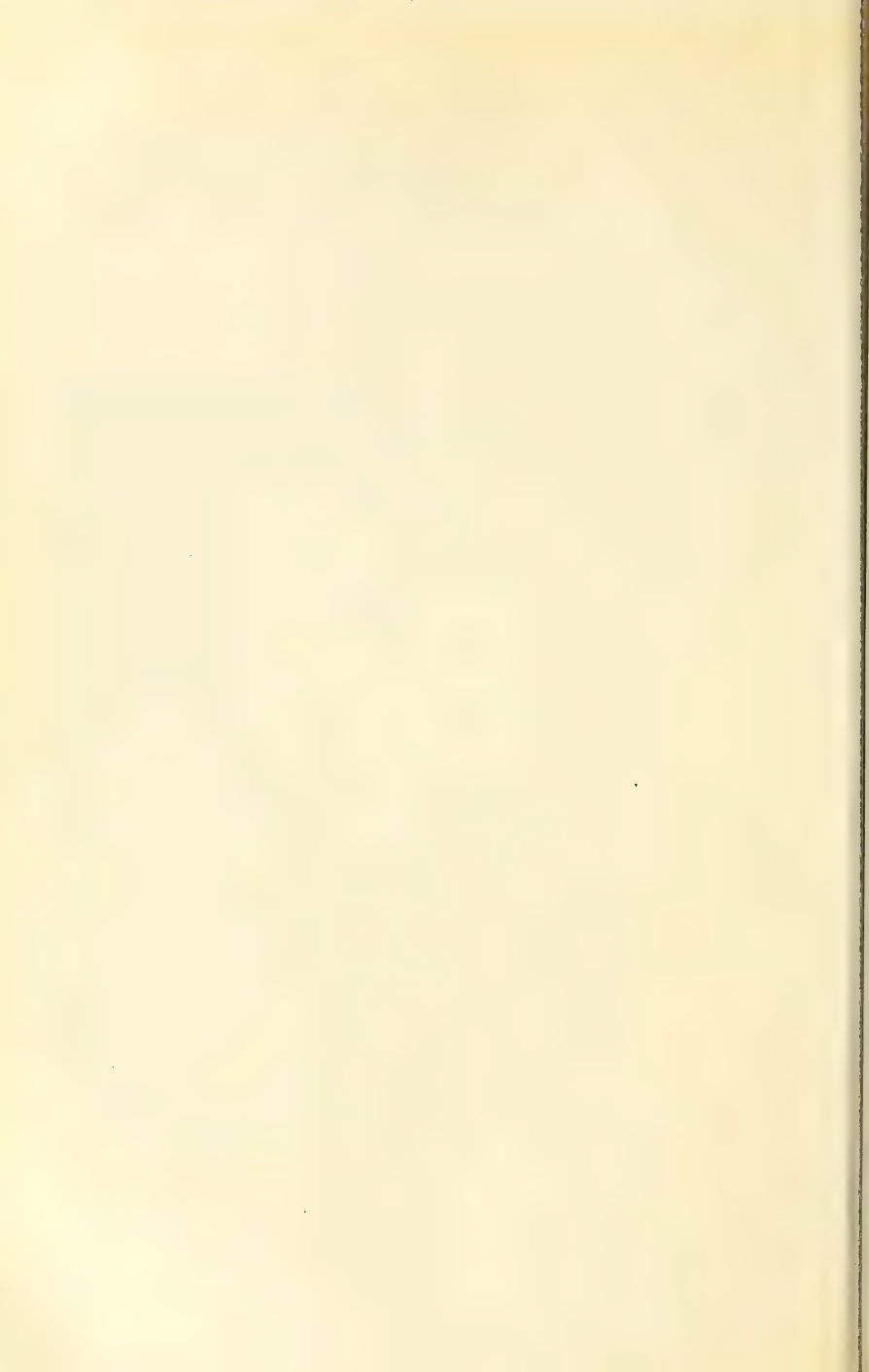
---

#### JOSEPHUS S. ELLINGSWORTH.

Josephus S. Ellingsworth dates his residence in Illinois from 1850 and in Henry county from 1863. He is now a retired farmer of Geneseo, deriving his income from his landed interests, for he is still the owner of a valuable farm property in Colona township. He was born in Worcester county, Maryland, October 15, 1844, and is one of the six children of William and Zepporah



MRS. ANSON CALKINS



(Evans) Ellingsworth. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Ellingsworth, was a native of Delaware, whence he removed to Maryland where he died. In his family were the following children: Minus, Elizabeth, Jennie, Henry, Jacob and William. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Ellingsworth was William Evans, a native of Maryland and of Welsh descent. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Margaret Evans, died in Maryland. They had three daughters and two sons: William, James, Zepporah, Ellen and Nancy.

William Ellingsworth, the father of our subject, devoted his entire life to farming and in 1850 came to Illinois, settling in Rock Island county. The year 1863 witnessed his arrival in Henry county, at which time he took up his abode in Hanna township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of partially improved land. To that he added until his place comprised three hundred and twenty acres, but subsequently he sold the property and invested in one hundred and eighty acres in Loraine township. At length he sold that property and in his old age removed to Geneseo, where he died in 1886, having passed the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey. For about twenty years he had survived his wife, who passed away at the age of fifty-six years in the faith of the Methodist church, of which she was a devoted member. They were the parents of four sons and two daughters: Jacob Henry, now deceased; Eliza, the wife of H. C. Bartlett; Elizabeth, the deceased wife of Jacob Smith; William J.; Josephus S.; and John L.

Josephus S. Ellingsworth was a little lad of but six summers when brought to Illinois by his parents and when a young man of nineteen years he came to Henry county. He was reared to the routine work of the farm, devoting the summer months to the labors of the field, while in the winter seasons he acquired his education in the district schools. He remained at home until he had attained his majority and then worked as a farm hand by the month for three years, after which he rented land which he cultivated for two years. In the meantime he carefully saved his earnings, after which he purchased one hundred and five acres of partially improved land in Hanna township. For a period he cultivated that property and then sold it and purchased three hundred and twenty acres in Colona township upon which he lived for ten years. This he still owns and from it derives a substantial annual income, but on the 4th of March, 1907, he put aside all the cares of the farm and removed to Geneseo where he purchased a fine home on Palace Row which he now occupies.

On the 13th of February, 1870, Mr. Ellingsworth was married to Mrs. Mary Hanna, the widow of Robert N. Hanna, and a daughter of Young and Lucy (Niver) Stokes. Mrs. Ellingsworth was born in Scott county, Iowa, and by her marriage has become the mother of five sons: Young Stokes, a farmer residing near Huron, South Dakota, married Lucy Burton and has one son, Allen R.; Robert died at the age of four years as the result of an accident; Joseph, a practicing physician of Watertown, Illinois, wedded May Evans; James Garfield, a resident farmer of Hanna township, married Emma Gerstner; and Archie M. is at home. Mrs. Ellingsworth had two children by her first marriage: Maude F., the wife of Edward M. Applegarth, and Frederick N., who resides in California.

In his political views Mr. Ellingsworth is a republican who gives stalwart support to the principles of his party. His fellow townsmen, appreciating his public-spirited citizenship, have called him to several local offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity. He was tax collector and assessor for a number of terms, was school director and supervisor for a number of years, and justice of the peace for seventeen years. He belongs to Clement Lodge, No. 680, A. F. & A. M., of Colona, and Riverside Lodge, I. O. O. F., while both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. Their genuine worth is widely recognized by a wide circle of warm friends. Mr. Ellingsworth has lived in the county for forty-six years and during that period has achieved success which is the direct outcome of earnest, persistent labor and carefully formulated plans.

---

### G. ELMER MESSMORE.

This is the age of the young man, for the present generation, profiting by the experience of their forbears, are forging ahead and occupying the best positions everywhere. There is so much competition that each business line must be pushed to the utmost and new blood, youthful vigor is required to stand the strain. One of the young business men of Kewanee, who is proving how successful a man can become before he has much more than passed the quarter of a century milestone, is G. Elmer Messmore, who was born here, November 15, 1882, a son of George W. and Mary E. (Miller) Messmore. The father, who was a native of Ohio, came to Kewanee in 1852 and for a number of years was a farmer of this locality but is now living retired. Further mention of him will be found elsewhere in this work.

The education of G. Elmer Messmore was secured in the country schools and the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Until 1902 he was engaged in farming with his father but always felt that his abilities lay in the direction of a strictly business career and in that year he entered the employ of M. Roth as bookkeeper and remained with him until April, 1909, when he bought an interest in the Home Tea Company and is now secretary and treasurer of the concern, John P. Thomas being the president. The company handles tea, coffee, china and package groceries and is in a flourishing condition that promises a prosperous future. The character of the men composing the company is such as to guarantee strict integrity of dealing and superiority of stock, and the people of Kewanee recognize this and are according the concern an excellent patronage. In addition to his interest in the Home Tea Company, Mr. Messmore is a director of the Kewanee Fair Association and he also devotes some of his time to the affairs of the Commercial Club, being one of its directors.

On July 23, 1905, occurred the marriage of Mr. Messmore and Miss Edith Besett, of Wyoming, Illinois, a daughter of Hiram and Eliza Besett. One child has been born of this marriage, Meredith Elmer.

The political affiliations of Mr. Messmore are with the republican party, but as yet his business duties have prevented his accepting any public fa-

vors. Fraternally he is an Elk and belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men, of which he is chief of records, and also to the Tribe of Ben Hur. Exceedingly energetic, he goes into anything heart and soul and achieves success. For this reason he is very often called upon to take charge of various enterprises and has become very well known throughout Henry county, where his life has been spent.

---

### HENRY L. KINER.

Geneseo and Henry county know Henry L. Kiner as a representative citizen who, through forty years of his connection with the city, has displayed marked devotion to the general welfare as a public-spirited citizen. Throughout the county he is known as a journalist and writer who has won more than passing notice as a contributor to leading magazines. Mr. Kiner has reached the fifty-eighth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred on the 1st of February, 1851, at the foot of Mount Nemo in Schafer's Valley, Perry county, Pennsylvania. His parents, William and Margaret (Calhoun) Kiner, were also natives of the Keystone state.

The founder of the Kiner family in America settled on the James river in Virginia in 1625 and a large monument was there erected to his memory which may be seen to this day. He came to the new world from Germany and in later generations branches of the family took root in other states. Jacob Kiner, the grandfather of Henry L. Kiner, was a native of Pennsylvania where, in early manhood, he followed the occupation of farming. He married Jane Dill, and they moved westward to Illinois in 1854, but the broad prairies, then comparatively uninhabited, brought to this mountain-bred couple a feeling of loneliness and they returned to Pennsylvania, spending their last days in Perry county, near Harrisburg, where both died at an advanced age. Jacob Kiner was a famous rifle shot and served in the War of 1812 with the rank of captain.

William Kiner, one of a large family of children, was reared in Pennsylvania, where he learned and followed the blacksmith's trade. After attaining his majority he married Margaret Calhoun, a daughter of John Calhoun, who was born in Pennsylvania and was of Irish descent, his ancestors coming to this country from County Tyrone, Ireland, at which time settlement was made in Perry county, Pennsylvania. John Calhoun was a carpenter by trade, being closely associated with building interests in the community in which he lived. He wedded Peggy Ann Dill, and they reared a good-sized family at their home in Schafer's Valley, where they passed away when well advanced in years.

Some time subsequent to their marriage Mr. and Mrs. William Kiner removed westward with their family, taking up their abode in Ottawa, LaSalle county, Illinois, on the present site of the Clifton Hotel, on the bank of the Fox river, in 1854. Subsequently they took up their abode in Otter Creek township in that county, where Mr. Kiner engaged in farming and continued to work at his trade. In 1864 he removed to Grundy county, Illinois, where he died in 1865 at the age of thirty-eight years. His widow long survived him, passing away in Geneseo in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Both were mem-

bers of the Methodist church, and were consistent Christian people who enjoyed the respect of all with whom they came in contact. They were parents of two sons, the younger being Samuel R. Kiner, who died in Washington, D. C., where he had been in the employ of the government for a quarter of a century.

Henry L. Kiner, the older brother, was but three years of age when his parents removed to Lasalle county, where he was reared until 1864, after which he resided in Grundy county for five years, or until 1869, when he came to Geneseo, where he has since made his home. While spending his youthful days on his father's farm he attended the district school and later benefited by academical instruction in Farm Ridge Seminary, in Lasalle county, Illinois. He made his initial step in the business world as an apprentice in the drug store of J. B. Moderwell in Geneseo in 1869, and continued in the drug trade until 1874. In January of that year he formed a partnership with John Christian and established the Henry County News, the business association continuing for four years, when Mr. Kiner purchased Mr. Christian's interest in the plant and changed the name of the paper to the Geneseo News, which he continued to edit and publish for twenty-four years longer. Mr. Kiner established an enviable reputation by his editorial pen, his writings being widely quoted throughout the United States. They are characterized by a whimsical and humorous style which, nevertheless, enforces the truth of fact which he intends to convey. For a number of years he has also been a contributor to several of the popular and leading magazines of the country, and is today one of the best known men in Henry county, his mental activity constituting a far-reaching influence.

Aside from the field of journalism Mr. Kiner has done effective work in the line of municipal progress, having been elected to serve four terms as mayor of the city of Geneseo, his last term expiring in April, 1909, when he retired from office as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of the great majority, having given to the city during four terms a businesslike administration characterized by needed reform and substantial progress.

On the 7th of June, 1881, Mr. Kiner was married in St. Louis to Miss June Howard, a daughter of Abel and Mary Ella (Hopple) Howard. They have two children: Henry Clyde, a student in the civil engineering department of the University of Illinois, and Howard Dickens, attending the Geneseo high school. Mrs. Kiner holds membership in the Congregational church, and his political allegiance has been given to the republican party. Because of his business activity, his official service, his social qualities and his unfaltering devotion to the general good, he has become widely known, while in Geneseo and Henry county those who do not call him friend would scarcely figure in the census.

---

#### GEORGE W. MESSMORE.

George W. Messmore, one of the substantial retired farmers of Wethersfield, who after years of patient endeavor and successful effort is now enjoying well earned repose, is a native of Ohio, having been born in Wayne county, that state, in 1842, a son of Jacob and Margaret Messmore. The father was a

farmer, who came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1852 and bought a farm in Kewanee township, thus establishing the Messmore family in this locality, which remained his home until his demise.

In the days when George W. Messmore grew up in Kewanee township, the educational advantages offered were limited and of a poor quality but he made the most of his advantages and has never ceased to add to his store of knowledge. He farmed for his father until he attained to his majority and for eleven years thereafter, when he bought eighty acres for himself. Subsequently he added forty acres to his property and still later thirty-six acres. After making some improvements, Mr. Messmore sold this farm and bought his homestead of one hundred and ten acres, to which he added seventy acres, and this property he and his son farmed until 1902, when he felt that he deserved some rest and so sold out and retired to Wethersfield.

In January, 1864, Mr. Messmore married Miss Mary E. Miller, who was born in Peru, Illinois, a daughter of William and Rachel H. (Hall) Miller, farming people. One son, G. Elmer, was born of this union. Mr. Messmore is a man of simple tastes, a lover of his home and one who has never sought office. He is connected with the United Brethren church and is a firm believer in the faith of that denomination. All his life he has sought to do his duty by his family and his community in his own, quiet way, and his success in life can easily be attributed to his unflinching honesty and his careful attention to his work whatever it might be. It is such men as he who constitute the real backbone of the nation and make it what it is today, the most powerful and wealthy in the world.

---

#### ERNST SCHLUNZEN.

Ernst Schlunzen, a farmer and stockman whose home is on section 13, Osco township, was born in Holstein, Germany, January 31, 1836, a son of Klaus Schlunzen. His mother died when he was but four years old and only the dimmest memories connect her with his life. He received a good education in his native land and at the age of seventeen began making his own living. He was early inspired with the desire to come to the United States, but out of regard to his father's wishes he remained in Germany until he was thirty-six, when the death of the latter made it possible for him to emigrate. In 1872 he embarked on a steamer, which took seventeen days to cross the ocean, and landed in New York with one hundred dollars in his pocket. He came to Illinois almost immediately and worked on different farms in Henry county. In two years he had saved enough to enable him to rent a tract of land and he forthwith wrote to the woman he had loved and courted in the old country to come here and marry him. For about twenty-four years he operated the Thomas Liken farm and then, in 1899, through diligence and economy, having accumulated a sufficient sum he made the first payment upon the farm on which he lives today. It is a tract of one hundred and forty acres, for which he paid sixty-two dollars an acre, and is now well improved. Mr. Schlunzen has re-

modeled all the buildings and tiled the land, bringing the farm up-to-date in its conveniences.

In Geneseo, on the 6th of June, 1875, he married Miss Ida Schlunzen, who, although not a relative of her husband, was born in the same neighborhood. Four children have been born to them: Sophie, who married William Schiedel and lives in Fairfield, Iowa, the mother of four children; John H., who lives with his father at home; and Dorothea and Henry, who also live at home. Mrs. Schlunzen passed away September 8, 1897. Although a naturalized citizen of this republic Mr. Schlunzen has not seen fit to give his political influence to any one party, but retains his independence and takes a full view of the situation before he casts his vote. He has never sought public office.

---

### GEORGE OTIS WITHROW.

George Otis Withrow, a farmer who has engaged extensively in raising, feeding and shipping stock, lives at what is known as Valley Farm, on section 1, Hanna township, and owns one hundred and sixty acres in addition on section 2. He was born November 4, 1870, in Phenix township, in the old brick house which was erected by his father, J. W. Withrow, whose sketch appears in another part of this volume. He was only six months old when his parents removed to the place which is now his home. Here he grew to manhood, receiving a fair education in the public schools. Until he attained his majority he worked on the farm for his father, but when twenty-one years of age he assumed charge of a part of his father's land. For about a year after his marriage, which occurred in 1892, he lived in a little frame house on that part of the homestead and then removed to the main farm, which he managed until the fall of 1900. Then he bought the one hundred and sixty acres he now owns on section 2, Hanna township, and for six years made it his place of residence. During that period he made a number of important improvements, such as in 1901 building a fine barn and a little later putting up a corn crib, and doing other things of like character. In 1906 he returned to the home place, where he has since resided. Here he follows general farming but has given his attention particularly to the stock business, in which he has been very successful, shipping many head of fine cattle to market annually.

On the 21st of September, 1892, in Phenix township, Mr. Withrow was united in marriage to Miss Florence May Fuller, a native of Hanna township, and a daughter of T. Dexter and Josephine (Mann) Fuller. Five children have been born to them: Otis Dexter, Ethel Arvilla May, Charles Raymond, John Wesley and Albert Mann. The last did not survive the period of infancy.

Mr. Withrow is a republican in his political views, and has played no inconsiderable part in local affairs, for not only has he held several offices within the gift of the people, but while he has been a public servant numerous changes of moment have been inaugurated. After having served as road commissioner for one term he was made supervisor of the township. During his term the board employed an accountant to go over the county books, which led to the installa-

tion of a new system of accounts, for though no intentional fraud was discovered there were several discrepancies and inaccuracies. While supervisor, Mr. Withrow was also a member of the educational commission and advocated the installation of a heating plant which his brother vigorously opposed. Upon the expiration of his term as supervisor he was appointed road commissioner, a position he holds to the present. In camp No. 40, M. W. A., Mr. Withrow finds relaxation from his daily cares in the congenial society of his friends, and in the Methodist Episcopal church, in which both he and his wife were reared, he finds the necessary spiritual guidance. A successful farmer and stockman, he is also a loyal friend and a good citizen, who enjoys the respect of his fellowmen.

---

### PETER VOGLER.

For many years, until a serious accident made work impossible, Peter Vogler was one of the active farmers of Osco township. He was born in Rapids City, Rock Island county, Illinois, November 29, 1856, and was a son of George and Agnes (Sauers) Vogler, both natives of Germany. The father was born in 1821 and came to America when a very young man, settling in Rapids City, where for a time he followed the trade of a cooper, in which he was proficient, and then devoted himself to the cultivation of the soil. He died in 1898, while his wife, who had been born in 1830 lived until 1906, when she too passed away and was buried in the cemetery at Rapids City. They were members of the Catholic church and reared a family of ten children, eight of whom are living: Peter, of this sketch; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Leander Payer, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Gertrude, who married Jacob Scheib and lives in Rapids City; Mary, who is the wife of John Yost and also resides in Rapids City; George, who lives in Munson township, Henry county; Charles and Will, twins, the former a resident of Rapids City, the latter of East Moline, Illinois; and Catherine, who is the wife of Hal Adams, of Rapids City, Illinois.

Peter Vogler attended school in Rapids City and after completing his education remained with his parents until 1879, when he started in life for himself on a rented farm in Osco township, Henry county. On this he lived and worked until 1895, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in that township. As opportunity afforded he added to the improvements and was considered a very successful agriculturist and stockman until November 8, 1900, when he was the victim of a serious accident. While he was running a corn shredder he became entangled in the machinery and had both arms so badly lacerated that amputation was necessary. This of course made active participation in the work of the farm impossible for him, but with the courage born of misfortune his wife and her children undertook to conduct the affairs at home. Circumstances prospered so well that in 1907 they were able to move to the city of Geneseo, taking up their residence in a comfortable house on Stewart street.

On the 26th of August, 1878, Mr. Volger wedded Miss Mary Yost, who was born in Hampton township, Rock Island county, Illinois, in 1862. Her father, Solomon Yost, was born in Pennsylvania in 1829 or 1830, and came to Illinois

in his early years. Here he followed farming until 1874, when he was killed in the woods by a tree falling upon him. His wife, who was Miss Margaret Weigant in her maidenhood, was born in 1837 and lives in the old house in Rock Island county in which all but one of her eight children were born. Five of these are now living: John, of Rapids City; Julia, the wife of DeWitt Cunningham, who lives in Kansas; Mary, now Mrs. Vogler; Rebecca, who, unmarried, lives with her mother; Eliza, who is the wife of Christian Wildermuth of Hampton township, Rock Island county.

Mr. and Mrs. Vogler have had seven children, four of whom are living: Glenn, born December 18, 1879, lives in Geneseo. He married Miss Emma Newman and they have one daughter, Viola. Bert, born August 9, 1881, is unmarried and lives in Osco township. Margaret, born March 23, 1884, is the wife of Theo Schmall and lives on the father's place in Osco township with her brother Bert. Alice, born August 15, 1896, attends school in Geneseo.

Mr. Vogler has always been a staunch democrat in his political views, but has never sought office of any kind. Though so helpless that he can do nothing but read and travel from place to place he is yet cheerful in a high degree, being grateful that his life was spared to him. His wife and daughter have been such a comfort to him in his affliction. He can eat without assistance, for the fork can be fitted into his stump. Mrs. Vogler, who has borne her husband's misfortune with such fortitude, is a woman of great courage, ambition and will power. She is compelled to be in almost constant attendance upon him, but she too sets an example of patience and cheerfulness, virtues which are strongly in evidence in their little home.

---

#### ELMER WARREN SMITH.

Elmer Warren Smith, manager of the Kewanee Light & Power Company and one of the most progressive young business men of the city, is a product of the farm, having been born in Galva township, April 22, 1872, and reared upon his father's place. He is a son of Warren B. and Mira (Smith) Smith, farming people. The father died in 1900, but the mother survives and makes her home in Kewanee.

Mr. Smith was educated in the schools of Galva and when nineteen years of age came to Kewanee, where he entered the employ of what was then known as the Kewanee Electric Light & Motor Company as fireman. So proficient was he, that promotion followed rapidly and the young man was advanced through all the various positions until he is now its manager. He has effected some remarkable changes, completely revolutionizing the plant and methods. When he entered the establishment the capacity was less than one hundred kilowatts, but it is now twelve hundred kilowatts. Even the name has been changed to the Kewanee Light & Power Company, and the plant includes the lighting, gas and electric, power and steam heating as well as the manufacture of ice. The company furnish more than fifty buildings with artificial heat in the business district, supplying about forty-five thousand feet of radiation. The entire develop-

ment of this plant is due to the efforts of Mr. Smith after he became manager, and to him is due the credit of establishing the heating and ice-manufacturing plants. The latter was established in response to a demand on the part of the people of Kewanee in 1906 and it has a capacity of thirty-five tons per day and in addition to the trade in Kewanee, five small towns are also supplied with the product of this plant. Mr. Smith is a director of the company and has been for some years. The people of Kewanee cannot give him too much credit for the business foresight and keen appreciation of possibilities which have resulted in the upbuilding of this company, which not only affords luxuries at low prices but gives employment to a number of men and thus increases the commercial activity of the city.

On December 4, 1902, Mr. Smith married Miss Katie Woolley, of Wyoming, Illinois, a daughter of the Rev. William Woolley, pastor of the Methodist church. Two sons have been born to them: Ormond Thomas and Morris Walter.

Mr. Smith belongs to the Illinois Electric Association, of which he is now president; is a member of the Illinois Gas Association and the National Gas Association, which connections he finds of value in his business. He also belongs to the Commercial Club, of which he is recording secretary; to the Kewanee Club; and fraternally he is a member of the Elks and the Masonic order. Prominent alike in business, social and public affairs, he is a citizen at once popular and useful, filling with credit to himself and with satisfaction to others the multiform duties and obligations imposed upon his willing shoulders by those who recognize his talents and abilities and who appreciate what he has done for the community and for private investors.

---

#### CHARLES CLINTON MILLER.

Charles Clinton Miller, a farmer on section 31, Galva township, Henry county, Illinois, was born in West Middlesex, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1857, and is a son of James and Henrietta (Kemp) Miller. His paternal grandmother died at the age of ninety years. The grandparents on the mother's side, Isaac and Elizabeth (Bonham) Kemp, died in middle life. The former was a native of Maryland and a shoemaker by trade. James Miller, the father of Charles Clinton Miller, was born in Pennsylvania and learned the carpenter's trade. In 1863 he came to Illinois, settling first in Hickory Grove but coming the next year to section 31, Galva township, Henry county. Here he farmed and followed his trade, and on the farm his son now owns passed away in his seventy-third year. His wife was a native of Maryland and survived her husband a number of years, her death occurring in 1904 at the age of seventy-eight. Both Mr. Miller and his wife were strong adherents of the Methodist church. He was school director and road overseer in the years of his activity and occupied a prominent place in the greenback party. Five children were born to them, three sons and two daughters: Mary, who died young; Charles Clinton; John; Myra, who married Fred Keeler; and Reuben, who died at the age of six years.

Mr. Miller has made Galva township his home during all his life. Reared to the work and hardships of the farm, he attended the district school near his home, and then the public school of Galva. Until he reached manhood the paternal farm was his home, but on attaining his majority he started out for himself. For the first few years he rented land and then he removed to the farm of one hundred and five acres he had inherited from his mother. This was but a part of a larger tract of two hundred and sixty-five acres which she had received as a gift from her uncle James M. Bonham. The inherited farm has been Mr. Miller's home to this day, and from it he has gained a comfortable competence.

On the 5th of March, 1884, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Harriet McDowell, a daughter of William and Caroline (McCoy) McDowell. By birth and ancestry Mrs. Miller belongs to Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandfather, James McDowell, was a native of that state, followed farming, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married Miss Sarah Brandon and they had the following children: William B., Jane, Nancy, Henderson, Thomas, Sarah, David and James. Mrs. Miller's maternal grandfather was John McCoy, also a farmer of Pennsylvania, who married Miss Elizabeth Mouer, and they had six children: DeWitt Clinton, Jacob Theodore, Winfield Scott, Caroline Emily, Ellen, and one who died in infancy. John McCoy died in middle life, but his wife lived to a ripe old age. Mrs. Miller's parents were also born in Pennsylvania and came to Illinois in 1876, taking up their residence near Victoria, Knox county. There the mother died December 12, 1895, at the age of sixty-five years, while the father survived until May 26, 1907, when he died in his eighty-ninth year. Seven children were born to them: DeWitt Clinton; Harriet E.; William W.; Edwin T.; Eva C., the wife of John Mackey; and two who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Miller's own family consists of four children: Clyde C., Edwin W., Henrietta C., and Charles Linn. The first born is a barber and farmer. The second son is employed in the Hayes Pump & Planter Company works. He married Miss Florence Dunn.

Mr. Miller enjoys pleasant fraternal relations with Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., and politically affiliates with the republican party. He has not, however, sought public preferment, though for a period of eight years he served as a member of the school board, during which time he proved to his fellow citizens that he was man who had their best interests at heart.

---

#### HOWARD ALFRED PILLSBURY.

Howard Alfred Pillsbury is now living retired in Cambridge. He was for a long period associated with mercantile interests as a traveling salesman but now gives his attention only to the supervision of his farming interests which include three hundred and sixty acres of land in Andover township—a district in which the family name has been known and honored since the early '30s. Numbered among Henry county's native sons, Mr. Pillsbury was born in Andover township, February 29, 1856. His parents were Levi and Pauline (White-

head) Pillsbury, natives of New York and of England, respectively. The former was a son of Caleb Pillsbury, a native of New Hampshire, who removed thence to St. Lawrence county, New York, settling in the vicinity of Potsdam, where he lived for five or six years. He arrived in Henry county, Illinois, in 1836 and died of fever in 1838. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Miss Underhill, passed away in the early '60s. They were the parents of three sons and a daughter: Almira, the wife of William Clark; George B.; Levi; and Ithamar. The maternal grandfather of Howard A. Pillsbury was born in England and after coming to this country was for a time a reporter on the New York paper published by James Gordon Bennett. He was, however, a lawyer by profession and practiced for a time at Kaskaskia, Illinois. Returning to his native land he there spent his remaining days, passing away when well advanced in years. His first wife, who was Miss Ellen Rattcliff, died in St. Louis, Missouri, leaving two daughters: Pauline, who became Mrs. Pillsbury; and Tillie, who married Lemuel Smith, a son of the once famous actor, Sol Smith, for whom Sol Smith Russell, later equally famous on the stage, was named.

Levi Pillsbury followed the occupation of farming and, seeking the opportunities of the middle west, became one of the pioneers of Henry county, settling in Andover township, where his uncle, Rev. Ithamar Pillsbury, had taken up government land. Levi Pillsbury became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Andover township, where he was reared to manhood from a youth of fifteen years. His father lived in Linn Grove for many years. After the marriage of Levi Pillsbury his uncle Ithamar placed him upon a farm in Andover township. This uncle was a very prominent factor in the early life of the middle west, organizing the first Presbyterian church in Burlington, Iowa, in Princeton, Illinois, and in Andover township. He took up large tracts of land which he deeded to the colonists who settled this part of the state and he was instrumental in naming the townships. Following his marriage Levi Pillsbury remained a resident of Andover township until two or three years prior to his death when he removed to Cambridge, where he passed away January 17, 1887, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife died in 1904 at the advanced age of eighty-three years. They were the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters, namely: Ellen, the wife of Charles Cleland, of Portland, Oregon; Silas W., of Monmouth, Illinois; Lemuel Franklin, of Morgan Park, Chicago; Howard A., of Andover; and Ida, the wife of Charles A. Westerfield, of Omaha, Nebraska.

Howard A. Pillsbury was reared in Andover township on his father's farm and liberal educational privileges were afforded him, for, after attending the village school of Andover and the private school of Professor Waldo in Geneseo, he became a student in the Geneseo Seminary. He then began traveling on the road for Randall Hall & Company of Chicago, representing that house for three years, after which he engaged with the Pattee Plow Company of Monmouth, Illinois, as state agent for Texas. He conducted the business of the firm as Texas agent for seven years, after which he entered into business relations with Church & Company of New York, traveling for that house in California and the west for three years. Since that time he has been giving his at-

tention to the management of his farming interests, being the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land in Andover township. From this property he derives a substantial annual income, supplying him with all of the comforts of life.

On the 1st of October, 1896, Mr. Pillsbury was married to Miss Annie Duer, a daughter of John and Rachel (Townsend) Duer, and a native of Monmouth, Illinois. Mrs. Pillsbury is a graduate of Monmouth College, and after her graduation she taught for several years in the public schools of Monmouth, Illinois. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, while her mother was a native of Ohio. John S. Duer was a farmer by occupation and became one of the early settlers of Monmouth, Illinois, where both he and his wife died. The latter was a daughter of John Ferris and Annie (Watson) Townsend, the former a native of Ohio and a member of the Society of Friends or Quakers. The death of Mr. Duer occurred in Monmouth in the fall of 1881 when he was sixty-eight years of age, while his wife survived until 1893, passing away at the age of seventy-five. They were the parents of seven children: Alice; Lucy, deceased; Harry; William; Thomas; Margaret, the wife of W. J. Bulkley of Cleveland, Ohio; and Annie, now Mrs. Pillsbury.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Pillsbury is a Mason, holding membership in Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M., while in Peoria Consistory he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He has also crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of Mohammed Temple of the Mystic Shrine of Peoria. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, but he has never sought nor desired office. He has, however, served as school trustee of Andover township and is interested in education and all that pertains to the best interests of the community. He possesses the qualities that are always found in the successful traveling salesman—ready adaptability, geniality and a cordial social nature that have rendered him popular with his fellowmen. He has made an excellent record in connection with the various phases of life which his activities have touched and fully merits the rest which he is now enjoying.

---

### THOMAS R. STOKES.

In studying the lives and characters of prominent men naturally the question arises as to the secret of their success. It is interesting to those who are still struggling along the path these captains of industry have already trod to know just what helps they secured and to what they attribute their arriving at their desired goal. One of the men who has been closely associated with the development of the industrial interests of Kewanee and who has attained to an enviable prominence, although not yet past the very prime of life, is Thomas R. Stokes, general superintendent of the gigantic concern known as the Boss Manufacturing Company, of Kewanee.

Mr. Stokes is a native of Kewanee, having been born here, October 11, 1873, a son of Robert W. and Matilda (Gunning) Stokes, the former a railroad man. Thomas R. Stokes was educated in Kewanee and received his initial business

training as an office boy in the concern with which he now occupies so prominent a position. From the very first he displayed unusual ability and this was recognized and the lad was soon promoted to shipping clerk. After this his advancement was rapid, for he was placed in charge of the manufacturing of husking gloves for his company, and later was made superintendent of the Kewanee plant. So thorough was he and so completely did he absorb details and so absolute was his command of the business that he was eventually made general superintendent of all the plants and still holds that responsible position.

Mr. Stokes is a member of the Commercial Club; is a thirty-second-degree Mason and a Mystic Shriner, belonging to Medinah Temple of Chicago; and a member of the Anthony Wayne Club, of Fort Wayne, Indiana. His religious affiliations are with the Episcopal church, of which he is senior warden. In all of these social and fraternal relations he displays that complete knowledge of the matter in hand which has advanced him in the business world.

In addition to his other interests, Mr. Stokes is president of the Kewanee Sanitary Supply Company and was one of the originators of this concern. The secret of his success lies undoubtedly in his faithful attention to duty and his never ceasing desire to reach out for more work. When he entered the company as an office boy he was not content with merely performing the duties assigned him but kept adding to his knowledge and increasing his scope of usefulness, and as his superiors were on the outlook for just such men his ability has received the recognition it deserves.

---

#### FRANK E. EDWARDS.

Frank E. Edwards, who as postmaster delivers the mail to the residents of Green River, Colona township, Henry county, Illinois, is also proprietor of a general store of the town and in the capacity of teacher became known to a large number of the citizens of Henry county. He was born in Hanna township, this county, February 19, 1865, and is a son of Ebenezer and Sarah J. (Ballard) Edwards. The father, who was of Welsh birth, came to America when about sixteen years of age. He made his way to Trumbull county, Ohio, where he obtained employment and where he met the woman who later became his wife and the mother of his children. She was born and reared in that county, and for several years after their union the couple continued their residence there, Mr. Edwards having a position in the coal mines. In 1854 he came with his family to Illinois and after thoroughly looking over the land bought a farm of eighty acres in Hanna township, Henry county. It was an unimproved tract at the time of the purchase, but before he died several buildings and well tilled fields were in evidence as proof of his industry and good management. On it he passed away at about seventy-six years of age.

Frank E. Edwards was the sixth in order of birth in a family of nine children. The days of his boyhood were passed on the home farm, and his education was derived from the district school. He was singularly fond of his lessons, and upon completing the prescribed course of study engaged in teaching

although but nineteen years of age. After one year's experience in that line he attended the Normal School at Normal, Illinois, for one year and then resumed his profession, to which he devoted himself for nine years in Henry county. In 1892 he bought the business he now conducts, though for the next three years he did not wholly give up his work as a teacher but taught in the district schools. In the fifteen years that he has been one of Green River's business men, he has been very successful. With the patrons of his predecessor as a foundation he has built up a large trade. An agreeable personality wins him customers, but a well stocked store and a constant endeavor to please those who rely upon him retains both the old and the new.

Subsequent to his entrance into the commercial world Mr. Edwards married. Miss Ella C. Cain was the woman of his choice, and the ceremony that united them in wedlock was performed in the city of Geneseo, January 4, 1893. At the time of their marriage Mrs. Edwards' home was in Colona village, which was the place of her birth, as the daughter of Patrick and Mary (LeHeigh) Cain. To Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have been born three children: Alice Lillian, a senior in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, who looks forward to graduating with the class of 1910; Frank L.; and Thomas Clyde.

Mr. Edwards has ever evinced an active interest in public and political matters and has accepted offices with which the republican voters of Colona township have honored him, having served for several terms as town clerk and as assessor. In these as in his administration of his duties as postmaster Mr. Edwards has proved his earnestness and his devotion to the welfare of the people of the village and township. Fraternally he enjoys relations with two organizations, that of the Odd Fellows, in which he has held the position of chaplain, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

### JOHN W. ROMIG.

John W. Romig, who has passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey, is a practical, progressive and enterprising farmer, who owns two hundred and forty acres in Cornwall township, on which he lives. He was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, October 16, 1834, and is a son of Gabriel and Fannie (Baltzly) Romig. In 1854 the parents sold their place in Ohio and drove across the country to Henry county, Illinois, where the father secured one hundred and sixty acres which are now included in his son's holdings. The land had not then been broken, however, and there were only two other families in the locality, that of Deacon Hayden, on section 26, Cornwall township, and that of Robert Clement, on section 25, for the agricultural possibilities of this part of the state were just being discovered. Gabriel Romig, with the assistance of his sons prepared his land for cultivation, built thereon a board house, and there lived the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1876. His wife survived until 1889, when she too was called to her final rest. The last years of their lives they spent in the home of their son John W. Romig, who cared for them with filial tenderness. They were the



MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. ROMIG



parents of eight children, namely : Lucinda, who is the widow of Nelson Parish and lives in Atkinson ; David, who married and removed to Oklahoma ; Sarah, who became the wife of Lewis Hunt and died leaving three children ; Daniel, who died at the age of sixteen years ; Elias, who resides in Lyons, Kansas ; John W., who is the subject of this review ; Mary, who is the wife of John Ranft and lives in Annawan township ; and Hester, who married John Schwab and lives in Cherokee county, Kansas.

Reared upon the paternal farm in Ohio, John W. Romig received a fair education in the district school near his home. When his parents came to Illinois he accompanied them, assisting in breaking the soil and experiencing the hardships of those early years. He was busily employed in general farm work until the inauguration of the Civil war, when he responded to the call for troops and enlisted as a private in Company I, Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was sent to Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois, later to Cairo, and finally south, where they participated in the engagements at Belmont, Island No. 10, the sieges of Corinth and Nashville, and in the battles at Murfreesboro, or Stone River, and Chickamauga. In the last mentioned engagement Mr. Romig was wounded and carried the ball for nine months, seeing in consequence a great deal of hospital life, for he was sent first to the hospital at Stevens, Alabama, thence to Nashville, and later to Louisville, Kentucky, and to Madison, Indiana, where the ball came out from the suppuration of the wound. Subsequently he was sent to Quincy, Illinois, and finally to Springfield, where he received his honorable discharge September 3, 1864.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Romig returned to his home in Cornwall township and has since devoted himself to farming. His father deeded him forty acres of land, on which he built a good house where his parents lived until their death, and later he himself bought forty acres of land for ten dollars an acre, selling it afterward for twenty-five dollars. Several years subsequently, however, he bought back that tract, paying sixty dollars an acre for it, while now it is worth one hundred and fifty dollars. Mr. Romig's next purchase was eighty acres for which he paid thirty-seven dollars and a half an acre. Later he added forty acres, at fifty dollars an acre, and finally another forty acres, so that now he has a farm of two hundred and forty acres all in one body and lying partly on section 36 and partly on section 25, Cornwall township. On the last addition to his property he built the commodious house in which he is now living. But he also owns one hundred and twenty acres on sections 26 and 27, Atkinson township, and a block and residence in the village of Atkinson, this property being the visible evidence of his life of thrift, industry and careful management.

On the 20th of December, 1892, in Plattsburg, Missouri, Mr. Romig was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Anderson, who was born in Rochester, Northumberland, England, October 18, 1860, her parents being William and Jane (Rutherford) Anderson. She was five years of age when her father died and was ten years of age when she came to America with her mother. They settled first in Stark county, Illinois, where her mother died and later Mrs. Romig came to Cornwall township, Henry county, where Mr. Romig made her acquaintance. She received a good common-school education. Mr. and Mrs. Romig have two sons : John W. who was born July 10, 1897, and Thomas E., February 12, 1900.

Mr. Romig cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and until 1884 was a stalwart champion of the republican party. Since that date, however, he has given his support to the prohibitionists, as he believes thoroughly in the crusade against the liquor traffic they have inaugurated. But he is not a man who seeks for office in return for party fealty, although he is never remiss in any of the duties of citizenship. At an age when many men put aside the heavier cares and retire he continued to till his fields and derive from them rich harvests, but as his success is the result of his own unabating efforts he enjoys the esteem of a large circle of acquaintances, who know him to be a man of genuine personal worth and upright and honorable life.

---

### JOHN WOODBURY.

John Woodbury, a farmer and stock raiser of Henry county, owns one hundred and forty-four acres of land on section 8, Edford township, and though not a native of this state he has since early youth been identified with its farming interests. He was born in the city of Davenport, Iowa, April 8, 1860, and is the son of Daniel and Minerva (Curtis) Woodbury. Both parents were of eastern nativity, the father having been born in Jefferson county, New York, January 26, 1825, the mother in Syracuse, New York, February 26, of the same year. They became acquainted, however, in Gelena, Illinois, and there were married. By occupation the father was a farmer. From Galena, he removed to Davenport, Iowa, and then after a short residence there, returned to Illinois, settling upon a farm he had purchased in Rock Island county. For about twelve years that remained his home, and then, upon selling the farm, he went to Nebraska. The change was made with the intention of making that state his home, but the same year he returned to Illinois and again he took a farm in Rock Island county, which his son John helped to cultivate, and he engaged in coal mining at Moline Bluffs as well, continuing in this work for about ten years. In 1883 he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Edford township, Henry county, on part of which his son now lives, improved it extensively and passed the remainder of his days there. He had a family of five children: Emma, the wife of Peter Gully, of Moline; John, of this sketch; Sophia, who married Joseph Donald and lives in Moline; Fannie M., who married Joseph Dopler and lives at Moline Bluffs; and Minnie, who married Calvin Llewellyn, a resident of Edford township. During his life Daniel Woodbury gave his support in political matters to the republican party.

As a farmer's boy John Woodbury received only a limited education in the district schools. He was three years of age when his parents removed from Davenport to Illinois, and about sixteen when they sought their fortunes on the prairies of Nebraska. During all his youth, he helped his father either on the farm or in the coal mines, and even after he had attained his majority he remained with the older man, assisting him in whatever way lay in his power. Of course in later years the union of father and son partook of the nature of a partnership, which was so mutually pleasant and profitable, that it existed to

within one month of the father's death, when a settlement between the two men was made. By this the son obtained eighty acres of land to which he has added from time to time as opportunity offered until he has brought his holdings up to one hundred and forty-four acres, the extent of his present farm.

In Rock Island city on the 23d of August, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Woodbury and Miss Augusta Kane. She is a daughter of Julius and Eva (Fritz) Kane and was born in Coal Valley, Rock Island county, Illinois, but at the time of her marriage, her home was near his farm in Edford township. To Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury have been born four children: Daniel, Bessie, Nellie and Clarence.

A successful farmer and stockman, Mr. Woodbury is also distinguished by the public spirit that has characterized his actions, and on occasion has assumed the responsibilities that the citizens of his township would put upon him. On the republican ticket he was elected to the office of road commissioner, which he filled for one term of three years; was for eight years constable; and has repeatedly served as a member of the school board. In all of these capacities, he has fulfilled the duties incumbent upon him with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He has also been republican central committeeman from Edford township. For the past twelve years he has attended the meetings of Colona Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Mystic Workers. His fraternal relations have been of the pleasantest, for he is a man possessed of many social qualities as well as of those stronger characteristics that have gained for him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

---

#### SAMUEL A. ANDERSON.

Samuel A. Anderson, who since 1901 as a general merchant has been connected with the commercial interests of Green River, Edford township, Henry county, was born on a farm in the province of Lanneberga, Sweden, near a station of the same name. April 16, 1866, was the day of his birth. His father, Andrew P. Oleson, was a son of Olaf Nelson. The father died when Samuel A. Anderson was a lad of nine years, but the mother, on whom devolved the burden of rearing her family unassisted, is still living in the old country.

Samuel A. Anderson received a good common-school education in the land of his birth but was compelled to work hard during the summer months. Through relatives and friends the stories of the opportunities for young men of ambition in America came to his ears, and at the age of eighteen, alone and with no knowledge of the English language, he started on his journey to the United States. He came direct to Mercer county, Illinois, where his uncle lived, who gave him employment on his farm and taught him the English tongue. For seven years he worked as a farm laborer both in Mercer county and in Henry county, and then for a few months clerked in a grocery store in Galesburg. The experience opened to him a new field and in that city he started in the grocery business for himself. For ten years he carried on a good trade there, becoming

known as a purveyor of fine articles of trustworthy grade. In 1901 he sold his interest in the Galesburg business and came to Green River, where he established himself as a dealer in groceries and general merchandise. In 1905 he built the store he now occupies and also his residence, and as his undertakings prospered he invested more largely in Green River real estate and bought several other dwellings.

While engaged in business in Galesburg Mr. Anderson married Miss Anna C. Mahlstedt, with whom he had become acquainted during the years he worked on a farm. She was a native of Rock Island county, Illinois, was born on a farm and is a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Kirchoff) Mahlstedt. The marriage ceremony was performed in Green River on the 6th of April, 1892, and the union has been blessed with three children: Lawrence, born in Galesburg, September 4, 1893, who has now finished the eighth grade in the public school; Ralph, also born in Galesburg, June 22, 1895; and Marie, born in Green River, May 31, 1907.

Mr. Anderson and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Green River. He affiliates politically with the republican party and always exercises his right to vote as a citizen of this republic. Still he is not an office seeker nor does he take much interest in public matters, being content if by his own efforts he makes a reputation as a merchant in whom the people may place confidence. He aims to give satisfaction in every instance, and the success that has attended his operations during the seven years he has been in Green River bears witness to the degree in which his aims have been realized.

---

### VALENTINE GERSTNER.

Valentine Gerstner, who was for many years a successful farmer of Geneseo township and is now living retired in the city of that name, was born in Baden, Germany, January 20, 1841, and is a son of Peter and Christine (Allas) Gerstner, both natives of that country. The father was born in 1812 and died at the age of fifty-six years, having spent the greater part of his life in the pursuit of agriculture. He never left the land of his birth, for it was only after his death that his son came to this country and found the road to success. Mrs. Gerstner, who was born in 1816, survived her husband about seven years, her death having occurred in 1875. Of the nine children born to the couple only four are now living, and of these Valentine is the only one in the United States, while John, Margaret and Elizabeth all live in Germany.

Valentine Gerstner received his education in the schools of his native land and worked for his father on the farm until he was called upon to render the military service exacted of every German born male as soon as he reaches maturity. When he was honorably discharged in 1871 Mr. Gerstner started for America, and after landing upon our shores came to Geneseo, Illinois, where he found work in the brickyards. Two years later he was hired by Fred Hornecker as a farm hand and after two years' experience he decided to start in life for himself. First he rented land in Geneseo township, which he cultivated with such success that in 1891 he was able to buy eighty-four acres on which he lived until 1899, when,

having acquired a comfortable competence, he retired from active life and took up his residence in the city of Geneseo. Here he lives in a pretty home west of Spruce street and has become a factor of the life of the little city.

In January, 1868, Mr. Gerstner married Miss Margaret Masengorf, who was born in Baden, Germany, February 11, 1845. Her father, Michael Masengorf, was a marshal in his native land and was shot in 1876 while in the performance of his duties. He was sixty-four years of age at the time. His wife, who was Miss Catherine Wolf before her marriage, came to America in 1875, where she died in 1888. They had nine children, seven now living: Mrs. Gerstner; Elizabeth, the wife of Peter Weiss, of Kansas; Adam, of Geneseo; Catherine, the wife of Peter Fry, of Peoria, Illinois; George John, of Geneseo; Effie, the wife of August Weiss, of Iowa; and Dena, who is the wife of Fred Haak, of Geneseo. Mr. and Mrs. Gerstner have had ten children, all living and all but the two oldest born in Geneseo township. Susan, born in Germany, July 3, 1868, is a dress-maker and lives at home. Eva, also born in Germany, December 25, 1869, is the wife of John Papenthein, of Geneseo, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Barbara, born February 20, 1872, married Charles Rose, of Geneseo, and they have one child, Lester LeRoy. John, born December 28, 1874, married Miss Marcia Decker and lives in Kansas. They have a son, Royce. Margaret, born January 12, 1876, is the wife of William Santee, of Phenix township. They have two daughters, Lulu and Viola. Katie and Dena are twins and were born November 12, 1878. The former is the wife of Luther Henander, of Geneseo township, and they have five children, Ralph, Harold, Roland, Elon, and a baby unnamed. Dena married Emil Munter, of Geneseo township, and they have three children, Hazel, Gilbert and Grace. Elizabeth, born January 6, 1881, is the wife of Robert Crisop. They live in Loraine township and have two sons, Lyle and Kenneth. Mary, born August 19, 1883, married Herbert Smith, of Geneseo, and they have one son, Ivan. Emma, the youngest of the family, was born December 27, 1886, and became the wife of James Ellingsworth. They live in Hanna township.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerstner are members of the United Evangelical church, as are their children, with the exception of Mrs. Santee, who is a Methodist. Politically Mr. Gerstner is a republican, and while not an office seeker he has served very efficiently as a tax collector. Frugal, yet progressive, having obtained what he now possesses through his own unaided efforts, he enjoys the good will of his friends and neighbors. He has reared a large family, who partaking of his own strong qualities of character, are a real credit to him.

---

#### FRANCIS EUGENE DAVIS.

Francis Eugene Davis, a farmer and stock raiser of Hanna township, was born in Herkimer county, New York, August 2, 1855, and is a son of Aaron and Ann (Eynon) Davis. His parents came to Illinois in 1861, and after a few years spent in Rock Island, bought a farm in Hanna township, on the same section where their son lives today. The original tract was half a section, but was con-

tinually added to until Aaron Davis had two hundred acres of good land in Hanna and Edford townships.

Francis Eugene Davis was reared at home and received a good education, first in the common schools of this county and then for a term or two under Professor Comstock in Colona. At the close of his school life he returned to the farm, and until he attained his majority gave his father the benefit of his labor. When he became twenty-one, he started out as a farmer. For a number of years he rented land in Edford township and then, about 1890, bought one hundred and twenty acres on section 4, Hanna township, which has since been his home. At the time of the purchase he paid but fifty dollars an acre for his farm, that is now worth fully twice that sum. He has remodeled the house, built a good barn, and through his system of cultivation the soil has lost nothing of its fertility nor its value as a pasture for cattle. To the stock business Mr. Davis has given more and more attention every year and annually sends a large number of animals to market. His earnest efforts have won a substantial reward and he is accounted one of the prosperous men of his township.

On the 4th of January, 1883, Mr. Davis married Miss Catherine L. Gottsche. She was born in Rock Island county, where her grandparents located when the pioneers first came to this state and when the Indians were more numerous than the white men. Her father, John Gottsche, came to America in the '40s or '50s. He settled in Illinois near Moline Bluffs and there met Miss Catherine Korb, whom he later made his wife. She was also a native of Germany and had come to this country with her parents in 1845. The family landed in New Orleans, journeyed up the Mississippi river to St. Louis, where the father died, and then came to Illinois, locating near Moline Bluffs. Mr. Gottsche died August 28, 1899, while his wife survived until May 11, 1908, when she was killed by a cyclone that swept Hanna township. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Davis. Nellie Ann, the eldest, was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in 1902, and for four years engaged in teaching. Then she married William H. Collis and lives on a farm in Hanna township. Catherine A., who was also graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in 1902, after teaching for three years, took a course in Brown's Business College and is now employed as a stenographer in the Davenport Locomotive Works. Margaret Eugenia was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in the class of 1905 and like her sisters has taken up the profession of teaching. John A. was graduated from the Geneseo high school in the class of 1908, has taught one year and contemplates taking a course in Brown's Business College. Mary Esther is still a student in the Geneseo high school but looks forward to graduating with the class of 1912.

Mr. Davis cast his first presidential ballot for Hayes, the republican candidate at the election of 1876, and has since always voted that ticket. He has ever taken an active interest in public matters and in 1898 was elected supervisor of his township, a position he held for eight years. He was made a member of the educational committee which gave him opportunity to cast his influence toward the improvement of the district schools and the conditions under which the teachers labor. His allegiance in religious matters is given to the Methodist Episcopal church and in that faith he has reared his children. The Clement Lodge, No. 680, A. F. & A. M., numbers him among its most active

and zealous members and for three years confided its treasury to his keeping. A successful farmer, an exemplary citizen and a man of high moral standards, he enjoys the respect of all who have come in contact with him and who know him well as friends and lodge brothers.

---

### ISAAC C. SNOW.

Isaac C. Snow, one of the agricultural community of Osco township, whose home lies on the southeast quarter of section 12, was born on a farm near Pioneer, Williams county, Ohio, August 2, 1861, and is a son of Orrin and Elma Jane (Snow) Snow. He was reared at home in Ohio and received a good education in the district schools, at the same time working for his father. At the age of eighteen he agreed with the latter that for the compensation of two hundred dollars he might have the benefit of his own labor, which under ordinary circumstances would have belonged to the older man until he was of age.

Accordingly, in the spring of 1880, Isaac Snow came to Henry county, Illinois, where an older brother and a couple of uncles had already located. He began working for others and by the time he was twenty-three, as the result of careful saving, he was able to commence farming for himself in Knox county upon rented land. Until 1901 he lived there and in Osco, Western and Edford townships, Henry county, and then removed to the place on which he is living today. He had bought it in 1900, paying eighty-three and a third dollars per acre, though it is worth considerable more than that sum now. He has made a number of substantial improvements, remodeling the buildings that were already there and erecting others. In addition to general farming he has engaged extensively in the raising, feeding and shipping of cattle, with no small measure of success. Ambitious and industrious, he has found that his endeavors met with large returns, so that he is now able to enjoy all the comforts of life. He owns two hundred and forty acres of land—one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township and eighty acres in Munson township. In August, 1907, he bought an automobile and he has now purchased his second, which he finds meets with his approval in a higher degree.

In Cambridge, Illinois, March 8, 1886, Mr. Snow was united in marriage to Miss Angeline White, of Woodhull, this county. She was born in Lynn township, July 26, 1865, and is a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Neal) White, both natives of Lancaster, England, coming to America as young people before they were married. They landed in New York and although they had in their possession only five dollars and a butter plate they decided to unite their fortunes and brave the trials of the new country together. The marriage ceremony was performed in Buffalo, whence they went to Ohio. After a year's residence there they came to Henry county, Illinois, locating in Cambridge and then going to Lynn township, where Mr. White eventually became the owner of four hundred acres of land. He has now retired from active life and enjoys the rest he has so well earned in Woodhull. Surely he may look back to the time when

his possessions were so few and be grateful for the success that has come to him.

Mr. and Mrs. Snow have had four children: Maude Estella, born May 1, 1887, attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute for one year and is now living at home; Winfield Everett, born October 4, 1890, was graduated from the Institute with the class of 1909; Harold Robert was born October 2, 1895, and like his brother Dale Reginald, who was born July 26, 1901, is at home with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Snow attend the Presbyterian church in Munson township, although they hold membership in the Lutheran congregation in Edford township. Politically he affiliates with the republican party, but although interested in public affairs he has never sought office. The ambition which at the age of eighteen stirred him to start in life for himself has urged his progress through all the subsequent years and has pointed the way to the successful position he now occupies among the citizens of Osco township. It is the result of his own efforts and is not marred by the consciousness that it was attained through the misfortunes of another.

---

### JACOB JACOBSON.

Jacob Jacobson, who for a number of years was actively identified with the farming and commercial interests of Bishop Hill and vicinity, but now has retired from active life and makes his home in the village, was born there May 24, 1859. His father, who also bore the name of Jacob Jacobson, was a native of Helsingland, Sweden, and was one of the band of men who established Bishop Hill. He arrived in New York in 1846, where he joined twenty men who left that city about New Year's for the west. They journeyed by way of the Hudson river to Troy, by canal boat to Buffalo, and by rail and stage the greater part of the remaining distance, walking from the terminus of the stage line to their destination. After his arrival at Bishop Hill he became closely connected with the interests of the community and took part in public affairs. He was one of the trustees of the colony and after its incorporation was one of the village trustees, holding the office through the greater part of the remaining years of his life. For many years, until 1872, when he retired from active business, he was engaged in merchandising as well as in agricultural pursuits in partnership with Swan Swanson, the father of the present postmaster. Indeed, these two were the closest of friends, not only having the same business and farming interests, but even uniting their public and home life so that they might almost be said to form one family. Mr. Jacobson died December 15, 1883, at the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife lived until 1888, when she also passed away at the age of sixty-seven years. She was Miss Helena Peterson before her marriage, was born in the same province of Sweden as was her husband and like him joined the colony in 1846.

Jacob Jacobson grew up in his home town and after attending the public schools he finished his education by a commercial course in Chicago. Thereupon he clerked in a general store here and then went to Galva, where he was

employed in dry-goods and clothing stores until his father's death necessitated his return to Bishop Hill. For the next two years he engaged in farming, forsaking that vocation to conduct a lumber business and for three years devoted himself to its operation. At the end of that period he retired from active life, although he still retains his agricultural interests, for he holds two tracts of land, one at Bishop Hill, the other near Nekoma, which are well improved and under the care of tenants. He has always been on the alert, however to give his support to whatever enterprise appeared feasible as a financial concern or as of benefit to the village. For a number of years he has been connected with the First National Bank of Galva as director and stockholder and his name appears among those who have contributed to other important commercial enterprises.

In Burlington, Iowa, September 2, 1886, Mr. Jacobson wedded Miss Hannah W. Wigren, a daughter of Rev. John Wigren, a prominent pioneer Swedish Methodist minister, who is now retired and is living in Chicago. Mrs. Jacobson is a graduate of Rockford College and taught school for several years before her marriage. Three children have been born to the couple. Helen C. is a graduate of Knox College, of the class of 1909, and is now teaching. Margaret E. is a student at Knox College. Robert E. is a senior in the Galva high school.

The family are stanch adherents of the Methodist faith and are closely identified with all church work. Politically Mr. Jacobson is a republican and has taken an active part in local affairs ever since he was of an age to participate. He has held a number of the offices of the village, has been a member of the board of trustees the greater part of the time since he returned here, and was township school trustee until last year, having held the position for the past nineteen years. For nine years he was township highway commissioner. In 1900 he was a delegate to the state republican convention at Peoria, has since been a member of other conventions and is now the member from Weller township of the Henry county republican central committee. In short, his ability and integrity have been recognized by his fellow citizens and the public spirit which has always marked his administration has won from them sincere regard and respect. His has been a life which has contributed no small share to the advancement of the village, and although he has relinquished the active participation in the more onerous duties of life, his days are still filled with thoughtful toil from which his community benefits. He still lives upon the old Jacobson homestead in Bishop Hill.

---

### JOHN SHATTUCK.

John Shattuck, who has the advantage of not only being thoroughly engrossed in agricultural work but is also a practical business man, was born April 7, 1853, in Highland county, Ohio, a son of Allen F. and Nancy S. (Woolums) Shattuck. The Shattuck family left their Ohio home in 1855 and settled near old Henderson, Knox county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farm-

ing. In later years he became a minister of the Methodist church, having been ordained after locating in Henry county in 1864. This was during the trying days of the Civil war and as he was intensely loyal and outspoken in his views he was often engaged in heated discussions. However, being a man of great physical strength and courage, he was preserved from bodily harm. In the years following the war he was actively engaged in ministerial work and became well known throughout his district as a powerful evangelist and eloquent preacher. On October 21, 1890, he passed away, his remains being interred in Clover chapel cemetery in the vicinity of the scene of his clerical life. When his widow joined him, May 19, 1904, she too was laid to rest in that cemetery. The good clergyman was a great admirer of President McKinley and it was his wish that he might live to cast his vote for him a second time, but death claimed him a few weeks before the election and he was denied what to him would have been a great privilege. Exerting a powerful personal influence, he turned many people to a godly manner of living and as a member of the county board for a number of years, as road commissioner, as a member of the school board and in various other township offices he showed the worth of an upright example. He was a man always true to a trust and faithful to every confidence reposed in him. While a man of limited education, he read exhaustively and, possessing a retentive mind, kept himself well informed, so that he was always able to engage intelligently in any debate or discussion. Progressive and far-seeing, he was able to take a broad-minded view of current events either national or local, and his advice was followed upon many subjects. Although advanced in years, he was actively engaged until his death, preaching a magnificent funeral sermon two weeks before he passed away. He was a man of great sympathy and charitable toward all, and far and wide the poor knew him for their friend. No one was ever turned away without both spiritual and material help and when he died the whole county mourned him as a personal friend, and his funeral was the most largely attended of any ever held in Henry county. The tributes paid to his memory by his fellow clergymen were beautiful and touching and stand as tributes to his worth and work.

John Shattuck, the son of this most excellent man, spent his youth on the parental farm and, being the eldest child and only son of four children, much of the management of affairs fell on his shoulders. He was educated in the district schools and has devoted himself to farming. On September 1, 1874, he married Rachel Petty, a daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Brown) Petty, farming people of Clover township. The family came from Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1867, settling in Clover township. Mr. Petty still survives and lives with Mrs. Shattuck, but his wife passed away in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck have had three children, namely: Mabel, who married Daniel Cameron, a farmer of Mercer county; Fay Allen, who is married and lives on the old homestead in Clover township; and Bessie, who is a popular teacher of the public schools as was her sister Mabel before her marriage. Both the daughters are very well educated.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck settled on the farm which has been their home ever since. It is a splendid tract of two hundred acres, well cultivated. Mr. Shattuck is a republican and has been interested in public mat-

ters, serving as a member of the board of supervisors for two years, a member of the school board for eighteen years, and is now a school trustee, having always been a friend of the public-school system. He has served as a member of the county republican central committee and is usually a delegate to the party conventions as well as a member of the township election board. Fraternally he is quite prominent, belonging to Woodhull Lodge, No. 502, A. F. & A. M., in which he has filled all the offices except that of worshipful master; is also a member of the Mystic Workers of the World and is active in all lodge work. He and his family are members of the Methodist church, supporting it liberally and engaging in its good work and in that of the Sunday school. For thirty years Mr. Shattuck has been a member of the choir and still sings at every service. On the occasion of the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the building of Clover chapel church, in February, 1907, he was presented with a handsome hymnal by the former pastors of the church who had grown up in the neighborhood and thoroughly appreciated Mr. Shattuck's services to the church. This beautiful testimonial is most highly prized by the recipient and will be treasured as long as he lives. He is fully informed on all current topics, whether of a public nature or those relating to his agricultural work, and as a consequence he is one of the representative citizens of Henry county.

---

#### PETER G. BERGREN.

Peter G. Bergren, one of the successful farmers of Bishop Hill, was born in Mosocken, Helsingland, Sweden, April 5, 1868. His maternal grandfather, Jonas Wexell, came to this country and to this settlement of his compatriots in 1870, but his daughter, son-in-law and their family did not arrive here until five years later. When Peter Bergren, the father of our subject, came here in 1875, he settled near Bishop Hill and engaged in farming. After a few years' experience he bought a tract of seventy acres west of the village, upon which he took up his residence. It is still his home, although about five years ago he gave up the active pursuit of farming, living in comparative rest from the toils of this life. His wife bore the maiden name of Martha Wexell.

As Peter G. Bergren was only seven years of age when his parents came to this country, he might be said to have passed the valuable years of his life in the locality in which he is now living. He was enrolled as a pupil in the public schools of Bishop Hill throughout his youthful period, and he soon became identified with agricultural pursuits through assisting his father in conducting the home farm. It was in 1895 that he started in life for himself. First he took a five years' lease upon his father's place; then rented one hundred and twenty acres of Hans Rosene; and next became a tenant upon two hundred and forty acres of land belonging to H. C. Hunt. In 1906, partly by his wife's inheritance and partly by purchase he acquired the sixty-five acres upon which he now lives and which he has tilled continuously, although he operates the fifty acres adjoining. He engages in general farming and has made several improvements

upon his place. These are indicative of the success with which he has pursued his life's work.

At Bishop Hill, March 14, 1895, Mr. Bergren was united in marriage to Miss Lottie Johnson, a daughter of the late John B. Johnson, who was one of the prominent farmers of Weller township. He and his wife had come to the colony in 1850, being of the company who left their native land to make a new home in this country of opportunities. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bergren, namely: Lloyd Raymond, who is thirteen years of age; Leon Ivan, who died in 1898 in infancy; and Ruth Elberta, who is now a little miss of seven years.

Mr. Bergren usually supports the principles of the democratic party, but at local elections he very frequently considers men and measures of more importance than allegiance to party, so that in consequence the candidate who represents the best interests of the community may safely count upon his support. As for himself he has served as highway commissioner, from 1899 to 1901 inclusive, and again from 1906 to the present. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and he takes a sincere interest in the welfare of his lodge brothers. A man who has lived up to high principles and has spent his life in profitable toil, he enjoys the respect of all who know him.

---

### AMARIAH WITHROW.

One of the distinctive features of the smaller cities and towns of Illinois is the residence of retired agriculturists who have settled down adjacent to their farms which were the scenes of former labor and are now enjoying themselves with plenty of time to look into civic affairs and to give their communities the benefit of their experience. One of the respected retired farmers of Geneseo is Amariah Withrow, who was born in White county, Illinois, May 4, 1831, a son of Neely and Paula (Everlith) Withrow. The father was born February 16, 1810, and the mother February 6, 1806, both being natives of New York state. Later they removed to Kentucky and then to White county, Illinois, probably several years before Amariah Withrow was born. In 1836 they settled in Phenix township, Henry county, at a time when the Indians were still troublesome. The father was first a whig and later a republican. His death occurred January 23, 1839, but his widow survived him until June 25, 1891, and both were interred in the Phenix cemetery. They were married May 20, 1830. Five children were born to them, three of whom survive: Amariah, the subject of this review; John Wesley, born October 19, 1834, who lives in Geneseo; and Neely, born August 20, 1839, who lives in Central City, Nebraska. On February 24, 1841, Mrs. Withrow married Harvey Hiksox, who was born August 27, 1819, and died November 4, 1853. They had three children, all of whom died in childhood, except Eunice, who passed away February 7, 1897. She was the wife of Asoph King and lived in Central City, Nebraska.

Amariah Withrow attended school during the winter from the time he was ten years old until he was thirteen, when not otherwise engaged, and one term

after he had attained his majority. He remained with his mother and stepfather until twenty-one years old and when he was twenty-five he had saved sufficient money to purchase forty acres of land in Phenix township. To this he kept adding until he now owns one hundred acres and at one time he had much more land but has disposed of some of it. Until 1895 he carried on general farming, but in that year he removed to Geneseo, where he built a comfortable house on North Aldrich street, which continues to be his home. He is a republican but advocates the temperance movement, and he is active in the Methodist church, of which he is a member.

On August 8, 1856, Mr. Withrow married Mary J. Huston, who was born in Ohio, October 6, 1832, a daughter of John D. and Margaret (Elder) Huston. The father was born in Ireland in the early part of 1800, while the mother was born in Pennsylvania. He came to America when sixteen and was a carder by trade. Both he and his wife died in Ohio. They had seven children, but Mrs. Withrow is now the only survivor. Mr. and Mrs. Withrow have had seven children, four of whom are living, and all were born in Phenix township: Eva Marian, born August 28, 1857, died at the age of three years; Sylvester died when one month old; Ellis E. died at the age of thirteen months; William, born April 5, 1862, married Pearle Merriman, of Geneseo, and they live on the homestead; Letha Amelia, born in 1864, married Sheldon Farber and they live near Princeton, Iowa and have six children, Guy, Floyd, Ethel, Leonard, Jesse and Vera; Lucinda, born June 25, 1867, married Clarence Ray, lives in Monmouth, Illinois, and while she has no children of her own she has adopted her husband's daughter; and Jerome, born July 22, 1869, married Bessie Magnuson and they live in Geneseo township and have two children, Ellen and Carl. Mrs. Withrow is also a member of the Methodist church, and is an earnest, devout Christian lady.

Mr. Withrow is a self-made man and he admits that his wife has borne an important part in securing his success. Some of his pioneer recollections are extremely interesting and if space permitted the insertion of them in full would be desirable. He has seen Indians living in their wild state in Illinois, and when his family arrived here, they were one of three white households in Henry county. To these three white families there were one hundred Indians, but now nothing remains of the red men but a few relics, while the descendants of the paler face inhabit the land. Mr. Withrow is a kind-hearted, earnest man, kind toward all and extremely proud of his children and wife.

---

### C. ARTHUR HENNINGER.

C. Arthur Henninger, senior member of the well known firm of Henninger & Smith, breeders of pure breed Duroc Jersey and Chester White swine, is conveniently located on section 30, Phenix township, six miles northwest of Geneseo. He was born in Hanna township, September 12, 1877, a son of James A. and Cynthia Ann (Fuller) Henninger. The father was born in Medina county, Ohio, but came to Henry county, Illinois, when one year old with his parents,

Jacob and Susan Henninger. They were pioneers of this locality, making the trip overland in a wagon and suffering all the privations incident to the life of the early settlers. Among these exacting conditions James A. Henninger grew to manhood, learning early to work upon the farm. His wife was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, near Prophetstown, but came to Hanna township, Henry county, when six years old with her parents, Charles and Keziah (Rome) Fuller, old settlers here. James A. Henninger eventually became the owner of one hundred and sixteen acres of land. He was a republican and served his party in township offices. His death occurred on the farm where our subject now resides, February 27, 1907. During the Civil war he served in 1863 and 1864 as a member of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry. Five children were born to James A. Henninger and wife, namely: Tillie K., who married Allen E. Smith and has one child, Guy E.; Frank, who lives in Hanna township; Jacob, a resident of Colona township; C. Arthur, of this review; and James A., who lives in Hanna township and is in partnership with his brother C. Arthur.

After receiving a fair common-school education, C. Arthur Henninger worked for his father until he attained his majority. His father bred Poland China hogs and was the first man in Henry county who received fifty dollars for one of his hogs, and this success turned Mr. Henninger's attention toward the desirability of branching out in the same line of business. He has studied the matter carefully, made many experiments and has finally reached the conclusion that the best results are reached with Duroc Jersey and Chester White hogs. The firm sell to the markets and hold auctions twice a year. In 1908 the firm lost four thousand dollars because of an epidemic of cholera, which was contracted by some of their stock at the state fair, where they exhibited. They also exhibit at the state fairs of South Dakota and their hogs have won seventy-five ribbons. During the year 1909 they exhibited in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Illinois.

Mr. Henninger is a republican but is in no sense an office seeker, being entirely wrapped up in his business. He is a young man of sterling traits of character, a good judge of hogs, and one who understands his business in its every detail.

---

#### FREDERICK N. BAIRD.

For more than half a century Frederick N. Baird was one of the successful farmers of this county, although he has recently retired from active life. The names of Illinois and Henry county are associated in his mind with a memory of his childhood, which the years and the momentous changes they have wrought have not been able to efface. When he was nine years old, in Bergen, Geneseo county, New York, a small band of farmers decided to leave that state and come to Illinois to take up land which the government had opened. For weeks the preparations for the long journey overland were carried on with bustle and excitement, and then at last the huge wagon was filled with families and their household effects and the yoked teams were driven forth through the streets of the village and out into the country which was little better than unknown.

Frederick Baird was one of the crowd of little boys who ran eagerly along beside the great wagon, as it rolled away, youth alone preventing him from accompanying it all the way, for his imagination had been stirred by the tales the older people had told of the horrors and hardships of the western world, of the Indians, friendly and unfriendly, and of incidents which had grown to great proportions at each recital. But he was a child and had to wait until he was of the age of those who then set out before he, too, could travel to a new home.

Frederick N. Baird was born at Bethany, Geneseo county, New York, May 14, 1827, and is a son of Frederick and Roxana (Cone) Baird. The father was a native of Guilford, Connecticut, where he learned the trade of shoemaker, tanner and currier. Shortly after his marriage he removed to Geneseo county, New York, where he followed his calling until his death. His son received what was a good education for that day and at the age of eighteen began to learn the carpenter's trade. As soon as he had acquired a little skill he started for Henry county, Illinois, spending the winter of 1854-5 here working at his trade. Here he entered some government land. He went back to New York for a few months and then returned to Edford township, where he found plenty of carpenter work. In 1856 he returned to New York for the second time, married and brought his bride to this county, establishing her in the house he had built for his brother until he should have time to put up one of his own. He lived in Edford township for a few years and then removed to Geneseo, where he had erected a good house, and later bought the land in Osco township on which he has since made his home. It consists of eighty acres on section 12, is well improved and under good cultivation. As the years brought rich returns for his labors he was able to purchase more land and now owns in addition one hundred and twenty-two acres on section 6, Munson township. Assured of a competence for the necessities of life and for many of its luxuries, Mr. Baird has felt fully justified in relinquishing the management of the farm to his son, and is now enjoying a well earned rest.

In Attica, New York, March 12, 1856, on the occasion of the second return to the state of his birth, was performed the marriage of Mr. Baird and Miss Caroline Partridge. She was born in Middleburg, New York, July 24, 1832, a daughter of William Partridge. Two children were born of their union. Charles Irwin, the elder, was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and for a number of years subsequent was connected with it in the capacity of a teacher. He also taught in Indiana where he lived for a long time, but returned to Henry county before his death, which occurred in 1903. He married Miss Emma Reese Dull, who bore him three children: Carrie Reese, who married Gilbert Samuelson and lives in Osco township; Charles Glenn, who is with his mother in Iowa City, Iowa; and Nellie Merle, who is also with her mother and is fitting herself for a teacher. Mr. Baird's second child, William Norman, received a good education and during his school period and even now has a reputation as a fine penman. He has not married and remains at home with his father, having the real management of the farm.

Mr. Baird was reared in the principles of the democratic party, but he became a whig when he surveyed the political situation for himself and cast his first presidential ballot for the whig candidate in 1848. In 1856 he voted for

Fremont and has supported the republican party since its organization. He is not a politician, though he has served as road commissioner. Religiously he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, having become a member before his marriage. Having heard of Henry county when it was in its wild state and taken up his residence here while it was still in the early stages of development, he has witnessed its growth and has promoted and participated in its advance, financially and agriculturally, and the sight of the well tilled fields and the comforts about him seem adequate compensation for the struggles of half a century ago.

---

### LEWIS W. SLAUSON.

Lewis W. Slauson, one of the men who has served his township upon more than one occasion as a public official and who has passed a long and honorable life in agricultural pursuits, was born in Albany county, New York, August 1, 1838, a son of Tryansel and Mary (Tenyck) Slauson, a combination of Irish and Holland Dutch. The father was a farmer by occupation. He and his wife never came to Illinois.

In the fall of 1857 Lewis W. Slauson landed in Galesburg and soon obtained employment on a farm in that vicinity, continuing there for one year. He then came to Henry county and for three years worked for farmers in Clover township, by that time being able to buy a farm of eighty acres, which he operated for himself.

On December 25, 1866, Mr. Slauson married Wilhelmina Houghton, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Barton) Houghton, who came to Clover township in 1858 from Vermont. Mr. Houghton, who became a large landowner and very active in township matters, died in 1870, his widow surviving him until April, 1892. Their remains are interred side by side in the beautiful God's Acre of Woodhull. Mr. and Mrs. Slauson became the parents of six children, namely: Horace, Solon, an unnamed infant son, and Louella, who are all deceased; Edith, who married Edwin D. Johnson, a farmer of Oxford township; and Carrie, who married Fred F. Kirkland, a farmer of Clover township.

Mr. Slauson has always directed his efforts towards farming and now owns three hundred acres of magnificent land which yields excellent crops. Although formerly a republican, his temperance principles have made him a prohibitionist and he is very active in the work of his party. Because of his recognized probity he has been called upon to serve Clover township as assessor and for twelve years he has been a member of the school board. Ever since 1869 he has been an active member of Woodhull Lodge, No. 383, I. O. O. F., passing through all the chairs. While not a member of any religious denomination, he and his family are firm believers in Christianity and the Golden Rule has been his guide in his dealings with his fellowmen. He and his wife have aided many, notably the Rev. Oliver Stewart, widely known as a church and temperance worker, who became their ward when only thirteen years old. They took him into the family, sent him to the Woodhull high school and after his graduation he went to Eureka College and also to a theological seminary. They treated him exactly as one of



MRS. L. W. SLAUSON



their own children, giving him every advantage, and they consequently feel very proud of him. It is such men as Mr. Slauson who maintain the moral tone of the community and who in their own lives set an example of upright living and honorable practice.

---

### JULIUS SCHULTZ.

Julius Schultz, one of the enterprising agriculturists of Edford township, who owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on sections 35 and 36, was born near Swetz, West Prussia, June 3, 1859, and is a son of Adolph and Caroline (Krueger) Schultz. He was about fourteen years of age when the family came to America. They were seventeen days in crossing the ocean and after landing in New York came to Henry county, Illinois, where his oldest brother, Gustav, was then living, as he had preceded the rest of the family by a few months. The father brought some means with him but rented land for a few years and then bought a tract in Geneseo township, for which he paid thirty-seven dollars an acre. This he sold soon after, however, and removed to the city of Geneseo, where he spent the remaining years of his life. Julius Schultz is the second in a family of five, the others being: Gustav, who resides near Kewanee; August, who lives in Burns township; Adolph, a resident of Moline; and Lena, who married August Leopold and lives in Keokuk, Iowa.

Julius Schultz had received the greater part of his education in the land of his birth, but after coming to America he attended school for a few months to learn the English language. Until he became twenty-one years of age he worked for his father upon the farm and then worked out for one year. With the optimism of youth he decided to start in life for himself, although it was necessary to go in debt for his teams and implements and for the rent of the land he had chosen. He continued to rent until 1893, when, having accumulated about two thousand dollars, he was able to make the first payment upon the farm where he now lives, going in debt for the balance. He bought it at the rate of forty dollars an acre, but it has now more than tripled in value, for were it put on the real-estate market it would easily bring one hundred and fifty dollars. He has made many improvements and increased its producing power. In 1906 he was able to buy another farm in Phenix township, consisting of two hundred and ninety acres. For this he paid seventy dollars per acre, but it has now almost doubled in value, being worth about one hundred and twenty dollars. He has devoted his time to general agriculture and has also engaged in the raising, feeding and shipping of stock, meeting with an unusual degree of success. He also owns a residence in Geneseo.

In Geneseo, March 7, 1883, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Schultz and Miss Caroline Krueger, who was also a native of Germany and a daughter of David Krueger and his wife. Of this marriage eight children were born: Gustav, Minnie, Martha, David, Reinold, Hedwig, Edward, and one who died in infancy. The eldest daughter is now the wife of Hugo Ristan. After the mother's death in 1899, Mr. Schultz wedded Mrs. Minnie Hollatz, nee Ger-

hardt. Of this union five children have been born: Emil, Alfred, Ernest, Rose and Arthur. Mrs. Schultz had five children by her former marriage and these together with his own children Mr. Schultz is rearing. They are Karl, Valiske, August, Walter and Freddie.

Mr. and Mrs. Schultz are members of the Lutheran church, and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party but has never sought for any office within the gift of the people of his township. The wide extent of his fields evince the measure of his success as a farmer, while the fact that in June, 1909, he purchased an automobile indicates that he is able to enjoy many of the luxuries of life.

---

ELMER E. and EDWARD B. JOHNSON.

Among the prominent and enterprising business men of Kewanee is the hardware firm consisting of the brothers Elmer E. and Edward B. Johnson. They are the sons of Albert T. and Harriet E. (Jarman) Johnson, the former for many years a merchant of Kewanee. Elmer E. Johnson was born there, September 1, 1869. Having been reared here and receiving his education in the city's public schools, he has always been more or less closely connected with its interests. His first business experience was as a clerk in the dry-goods store of T. H. Phillips where he gave satisfaction during a period of six years, and later he was with the National Tube Company for six years. For the last two years with that concern he was in charge of the fittings department. During that time he gained practical experience in business methods so that he desired to embark in business on his own account. Accordingly, under the firm title of Johnson & Craig, he engaged in making and selling monuments. After two years, however, he felt he could better his fortunes elsewhere, so in partnership with his brother Edward B. he opened the hardware store which he still conducts. It has proved one of the valuable additions to the commercial life of Kewanee, being both a credit to the abilities of the men who are its proprietors and the general financial stability of the town. On the 28th of June, 1900, Elmer E. Johnson wedded Miss Florence Kearny, of Washington, D. C., a daughter of James V. and Mary E. Kearny. The former was for many years the editor of the Galesburg Mail, but has now retired from active life and is residing in the city of Washington. One daughter, Doris, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. The family are members of the Congregational church, of which society Mr. Johnson is clerk. Fraternally he is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to the commandery in Kewanee and is also a member of the Kewanee Club, in which organization he has played a prominent part. While participating in the social life of the town, he is also interested in its political welfare, for he is a member of the school board and for a time was a member of the village board of Wethersfield.

Edward B. Johnson, of the firm of Johnson Brothers, is also well known in the social and commercial life of Kewanee. Having been reared in this city he attended its high school and then clerked for T. H. Phillips for a period of six

years. Subsequently he entered the employ of the National Tube Company, with which he remained until 1900, when he joined his brother, establishing the Johnson Brothers Hardware Company. Like the latter he belongs to the Congregational church and to the Kewanee Club, while his fraternal relations embrace membership in the local lodge of the Odd Fellows, of the Red Men and of the Elks. He is also chief of the tribunes. As superintendent of privileges he has promoted the success of the annual Kewanee fairs for he is a man of pronounced business ability, who is not slow to see opportunities and derive from them the largest profits. The success of the firm depends almost equally upon both of its members and in the nine years since it was organized they have proved themselves to be men of high principles and integrity in all their business dealings.

---

### EMANUEL LAUDERBAUGH.

Emanuel Lauderbaugh, a well-to-do farmer of Phenix township, was born in Pennsylvania, December 23, 1851, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Hartman) Lauderbaugh, both natives of the Keystone state. The father was born December 22, 1817, followed the life of an agriculturist, and in 1866 came to Illinois, settling in Phenix township, Henry county, where he lived until his death in 1878. His wife has also passed away and is survived by eight of their thirteen children. The three oldest, Isaac, Jesse and William, live in Missouri. Fayon is a resident of Kansas City. Catherine is the wife of William Brown, of Missouri. Emanuel is the subject of this sketch. Amanda is the wife of Peter Roland, of Abingdon, Illinois, where he teaches and preaches. Susan is the wife of William Rapp and lives in Nebraska. Jesse was the only son who took part in the Civil War.

Emanuel received the greater part of his education in the schools of his native state, but after his parents came to Illinois he went for a short time to the schools here. Until he became twenty-two years of age he remained at home, working for his father, and then in 1876 he started to farm for himself and ran a threshing machine for a number of years. He continued to rent land for a long period and then, in 1891, bought from his parents one hundred and sixty acres of the farm he now occupies. From time to time, as he saw opportunity, he purchased more land until now he has about two hundred and sixty acres, all fertile and well improved, on which he pursues general farming and raises a quantity of stock for the market. The success to which he has attained is indicated in slight measure by the excellence of the buildings he has put up. There are a handsome house, substantial barns, numerous outhouses and a windmill, in short, whatever was necessary to make the place strictly modern in every way.

Mr. Lauderbaugh has been twice married. In 1877 he wedded Miss Lucinda McHenry, who was born in Illinois and was a daughter of D. B. and Rachel McHenry, old settlers in this state. Her father has passed away, but her mother is still living in Geneseo. Only two of their six children are living: Myron is a horse dealer and Fred lives in Ottumwa, Iowa. Mrs. Lauderbaugh died in 1889,

leaving four children: Nellie, who teaches in the high school of Geneseo; Tella, deceased; Chester, who married Miss Maude Hammer and lives in Phenix township; and John, deceased. Nellie, the eldest daughter, was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and then attended the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. On the 22d of September, 1891, Mr. Lauderbaugh married Miss Mildred Darin, who was born in Phenix township, May 19, 1857, and is a daughter of John Jackson and Eleanor (Clarke) Darin, both natives of Pittsburg, Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. The father's sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. He was one of the successful farmers of this section of the county, and when, on the 8th of October, 1904, his life was ended he was buried in Oakwood cemetery, Geneseo. His wife, who had been born March 19, 1827, was buried there two years before, her death having occurred March 11, 1902. They were the parents of seven children, only one of whom is deceased: Annie, the wife of R. A. Pinnell, of Alexandria, South Dakota; Mildred, the wife of Mr. Lauderbaugh; Clarke J. who died October 22, 1904; Edward E., of Phenix township; Nora, the wife of Virgil McHenry, of Phenix township; Charles H., of Los Angeles, California; and George L., of San Francisco, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Lauderbaugh have one daughter, Lida Eleanor, born May 31, 1893, in Phenix township. She attends Villa de Chantal, in Rock Island, where she is taking a college preparatory course. In his political affiliations Mr. Lauderbaugh is a prohibitionist and has held all the township offices. He has also been trustee of his church and has the confidence of the people who know him.

---

### RICHARD D. JONES.

A little boy convalescing from a hard attack of smallpox which he caught in the coal mines, plead daily with his parents that they would forsake that confining and unhealthy life, buy a piece of land and engage in the agricultural pursuits, which, while being more remunerative, would also enable them to enjoy more rugged and permanent good health. From those days in the sickroom Richard D. Jones dates his career as a farmer, and in the lapse of the years has never had occasion to regret that his pleading was given thoughtful consideration, for he is now one of the successful and influential agriculturists of Colona township.

He was born in Wales, April 1, 1850, a son of Daniel and Mary (Jenkins) Jones. In 1856, the family, consisting of the parents and six children, started for America. The father was a miner and when they embarked upon their long journey it was with the intention of settling in Salt Lake City, Utah, for they were among the believers of Joseph Smith and members of the Latter Day Saints. When they reached Iowa City, however, then the terminus of the Rock Island Railroad, they found that they should have to continue the rest of the trip by wagon train and that a considerable amount of money was a prerequisite. As they were wholly without funds, the balance of the party continued on their way without them, and they were compelled to look for some place where they might obtain a living. Having been coal miners across the

ocean, the father and elder sons decided to seek employment in the mines in this state, and accordingly the family removed to Minersville, Colona township, Henry county, now known as Briar Bluff, where they found employment. In 1857 they removed to Coal Valley, where they lived and worked until the spring of 1863, when they located on a farm of eighty acres which the father purchased in Western township. He had worked in the mines since he was seven years of age, and like many men, who have become habituated to one means of winning a livelihood, found little complaint with his work, despite the fact that it had been his occupation for half a century. But not so the young boy who believed that the mines were exhausting the strength and destroying the powers of the different members of the family. He had experienced the foulness of the life, which had made him subject to the dread disease of smallpox, so he urged the father to buy a piece of land and start in life anew. Such was the reason for the family's removal to the farm in Western township, upon which they lived until 1884, when the father and mother removed to Correctionville, Iowa, where their youngest son, Daniel, was located. There the former died in October, 1889, and his widow in June, 1893. The hardships the couple had known were numerous and sometimes almost overwhelming, but they ever ordered their lives in accordance with high principles of honor and integrity, being able to transmit to their children the strong Welsh trait of honesty, industry and frugality.

There were seventeen children born to them, but only six of these were living when the family came to the United States. They were Louis, Walter, William, Martha, Richard D. and Daniel. The eldest went to California in 1862, married there and then removed to Nevada, where he lived for about twelve years. At the end of that period he sold his claims and returned to Illinois. In 1872 he bought a farm near Red Oak, Iowa, on which he lived until his death, which occurred in October, 1898, leaving a son, a daughter and a widow, who still make their home there. Walter was married in 1861 and with his young bride joined an emigrant train bound for Salt Lake City, where he has since resided. In 1862 William enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served three years or until the close of the war. Although he was ever at his post of duty and participated in a number of severely contested engagements, he closed his career as a soldier without having been wounded or captured. Martha, the only daughter, is the wife of D. H. Harris, of Platt, South Dakota. Daniel, the youngest, is in Iowa.

Richard D. Jones has been very busy ever since he was old enough to work, and although he was but thirteen years of age when he persuaded his parents to engage in farming, he had to assume no small share of the work. He received a meager education in the district schools of Western township. At the age of twenty-one he married, but when he established a home of his own he removed to Red Oak, Montgomery county, Iowa, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1877. In that year he returned to Colona township, this county, where he purchased the place known as the R. L. Shepherd farm, which has been his home ever since. The original farm comprised one hundred and eighty acres, but he has added to it in the course of years until now he owns four hundred and forty-four acres, an excellent tract of land, on which Mr. Jones pur-

sues diversified farming and engages in stock feeding and dairying. His place is well improved with buildings suitable to his needs, and the fields are tilled with care, skill and knowledge. In consequence, as progressive ideas and industry have been guiding features in his life, he is one of the most successful men in his locality, for not only has he secured a large income, but he enjoys a high reputation for honesty and is respected by every one who has come in contact with him either in business relations or socially.

On the 25th of December, 1871, Mr. Jones wedded Miss Jeanette Craig McWhinney, a daughter of James and Margaret (Craig) McWhinney. The former was a native of the north of Ireland, while the latter was born in Scotland. Both came to America as young people, were married in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where their daughter, Mrs. Jones, was born, and then came to Henry county, Illinois, settling in Colona township, where they passed the remainder of their lives. They died some years ago. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, namely: Margaret, who is the wife of Amos Baum, of Colona; Daniel F., who is married and is a farmer of Edford township; Thomas, A., who is also married and is a farmer and stockman of Colona township; Clara, who is the wife of Albert Kershaw, an agriculturist of Briar Bluff; Nellie, who is the wife of Clark J. Glenn, a coal operator of Edford township; and Ruby E. and Raymond W., who are at home. Mrs. Jones was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church, and while all the family are interested in religious work they are not members of any denomination.

A republican in his political views, Mr. Jones has played an important part in local affairs and in the councils of his party. He has been a delegate to county and district conventions, is now, having been for some years past, the Colona township member of the county republican central committee. For a number of years he served his township as assessor, was road commissioner, and for eighteen years was a member of the district board of education, for he has always been deeply interested in the subject of public instruction, as he never enjoyed the advantages in that line by which his children have profited. A progressive citizen, he is an ardent advocate of all substantial public improvements and has been influential in obtaining many of the advantages of which the citizens of Colona are now proud. His religion and charity are distinctly of the practical kind, so that he may well be called one of the splendid residents of his locality, whose life has contributed much toward the betterment of those who have associated with him.

---

#### ARTHUR G. McMASTER.

Arthur G. McMaster, who is just entering upon an independent business career as an agriculturist, making his home on section 34, Weller township, was born in Harvard, Clay county, Nebraska, on the 30th of November, 1885. He is a son of George R. and Julia (Shear) McMaster, the former who was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, still survives at the age of sixty-nine years, making his home near Nekoma. His wife, who is a daughter of Henry Shear, a

well known farmer residing near Altona, is a native of Illinois, where she was reared and educated, being a graduate of Galesburg high school.

Reared in his native state, Arthur G. McMaster at the usual age became a pupil in the public schools of Harvard and later attended the schools of Henry county, Illinois, for about two years. After laying aside his text-books he gave his father the benefit of his assistance in the work of the home farm until March 1, 1909, when he leased a farm of eighty acres three miles southeast of Nekoma and started out in the business world on his own account as an agriculturist. He is concentrating his energies upon the further development and improvement of his farm, which is already under a good state of cultivation, practices rotation of crops and studies the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate. He is industrious, diligent and persevering in the conduct of his business and systematic and progressive in the methods which he employs.

On the 20th of January, 1909, Mr. McMaster was united in marriage in Rockford, Illinois, to Miss Minnie Peterson, a daughter of Claus Peterson, now residing in Galva. Prior to her marriage she was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church of Altona, being a member of the choir and taking an active part in all social affairs of the church, while her husband holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Altona. In politics he gives stalwart support to the principles of the republican party but has never been an aspirant for public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his private affairs. Although he has but recently joined the ranks of Henry county's agriculturists, he has already manifested careful and wise management, close application and good business ability, all of which augur much for a successful future.

---

#### WILLIAM A. NEVILLE.

Few among the citizens of Kewanee have done more toward its improvement than the well known real-estate dealer, contractor, and builder, William A. Neville. He has erected many of the residences of the town, was the first to offer homes for sale upon the installment basis here, and has in other ways been connected with its best interests. To be sure the blood of pioneers flows in his veins, for his father, Patrick Neville, was one of the early settlers of this county. He was born in Ireland, in 1808, but about 1830 decided that he would come to America to try the unusual opportunities afforded here. He landed at Baltimore, where with the determination to get ahead as fast as he could, he found employment, receiving only six dollars a month as wages. The next year he commanded eight dollars, and the third, which was his last in the city, ten dollars a month. In 1833 he came to Illinois, locating in Fulton county, where he found work on a farm, and was in the employ of Jacob Emery, of Stark county, during 1836 and 1837. In the fall of the latter year he entered the southwest quarter of section 24, township 15 west, range 4, east, of Burns township, Henry county, and in the summer of 1838 employed Mr. Ogle of Toulon to break twenty acres of his land. In the summer of the next year he came here, with a yoke of cattle, to make it his home, erecting for his shelter a log cabin.

This was a house of some importance during the next few years, for during the winter of 1849-50 it was used as the school house, in which William L. Dalrymple, late of Cambridge and now deceased, held classes. The school teacher in those days received the meager salary of twelve dollars a month, although he had in addition the privilege of boarding around at the homes of his pupils. In 1848 Mr. Neville built his frame house, which is still standing and was occupied until 1883. It was one of the best on the countryside in those days, as some of the more important of the early artisans in Henry county at that time contributed their labor to its erection. Mr. Neville hauled the lumber for it with an ox-team from Chicago, and from that city brought many of the appointments of building which were not in general use here. The house was provided with pine siding, with shingles, doors and sashes, and with flooring throughout. The lumber, however, was rough and was dressed by hand before it was put into the building. The contract for the erection of the house was given to Sullivan Howard, who was assisted by his son, James, and Nat Mayhew, it being the first piece of carpenter work intrusted to the last mentioned. The brick work was done by Michael Grant, of Sugar Tree Grove; the plastering by Tom Brown, also of Sugar Tree Grove, and the painting by Mr. Pratt, of Wethersfield. The frame was made of heavy timber hewed by William D. Cross. This house was finished in good style, was painted white on the outside with green blinds and might well bear comparison with that Samuel Carson put up the same year, or with that erected by Merrill Otis, in 1843, into whose making native lumber of Burns township had gone. Mr. Neville did not live long to enjoy his new home, however, for he died April 16, 1850. He pursued farming after coming to Henry county, and was as successful as could be expected considering the character of the times.

About 1841 Mr. Neville married Miss Jane Pounds, who was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, March 17, 1813, and when a child went to Fredericksburg, Ohio, with her parents. In 1840 she came to Illinois to live with a married sister in Stark county, where she met the man who later became her husband. Through her marriage she became the mother of five children. Thomas P. is now a resident of Stuart, Iowa. Mary A. died in infancy. James L., living in Belleville, Kansas, was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war and was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, enduring all the hardships of confinement in the southern prisons. P. H. lives upon a farm adjoining the old homestead. William A. is the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Neville long survived her husband, for her death did not occur until the 14th of February, 1896, when she was nearly eighty-four years old.

William A. Neville was born in the house which has just been described, February 3, 1855. He grew up on the old homestead, and he received his education from the public school of the district although the farm work was never interrupted on account of studies. At the age of twenty-one he left home, studied medicine for a time, and then in 1878, went to Stuart, Iowa, where he engaged in agriculture. Later he took up the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1884, when he returned to Kewanee and established himself here as a carpenter and builder. After two years' experience he began taking contracts, continuing in that business to the present. He laid out the First and Second Neville addi-

tions here, besides plotting the Thelan and Neville addition to Wethersfield, and has put up many of the fine residences that adorn its streets. Since 1890 he has been dealing in real estate in connection with his other business, putting up numbers of comfortable homes which he sells to those of moderate means who desire to buy a house upon the installment plan. He is also the agent of several reputable insurance companies, having the assistance of his son Russell T. in this work. Mr. Neville stands forth as one of the best type of western progress and enterprise, to whom Kewanee owes not a little of its prosperity.

On the 14th of February, 1878, Mr. Neville was married to Miss Cynthia West, of Kewanee township. Four children have been born to them, namely: Russell T., of whom mention is made below; Frank R., a carpenter of Kewanee; and Ralph L. and Edna H. who are attending school. Mrs. Neville is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while Mr. Neville has allied himself politically with the prohibitionists.

Russell T. Neville, the eldest son, was born in Stuart, Iowa, December 27, 1879. Being but four years of age when his parents came to Kewanee, he has virtually been reared in this town. He attended its public schools and when his education was completed engaged in business with his father. Now he has assumed charge of the insurance department while the latter conducts operations in real estate and building. In 1905 he was elected justice of the peace, being at that time the youngest man to hold that office in this section of the state, and in 1909 was reelected, his second term expiring in 1913. He has proved himself worthy of the confidence placed in his judgment. On the 26th of May, 1903, he wedded Miss Mayme I. Ronstrum, of Kewanee, a daughter of Nels and Julia Ronstrum, the former a painter and decorator here. One daughter, Dorothy, has been born of this union. Mr. Neville is a Knight Templar, belongs to the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and to the Modern Woodmen of America and being a man of engaging personality he has made numerous friends among his lodge brethren and among the citizens of Kewanee.

---

### JEHIEL FULLER.

Jehiel Fuller, one of the leading farmers of Wethersfield township, is enjoying a substantial measure of success resulting from close application and careful management of his business affairs. He was born March 29, 1853, on the farm which is still his home. His father, Jehiel Fuller, was a native of Northmoreland, Pennsylvania, but resided principally at Wilkes Barre until his removal to the west. He was a direct descendant in the seventh generation of Edward Fuller, who came to America on the Mayflower from Redenhall, of the county of Norfolk, England. He and his wife died soon after reaching the new world and their son Samuel who came with his parents on the Mayflower became the progenitor of the family in America. From the same ancestor came Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, of the supreme court. Jehiel Fuller continued his residence in the Keystone state until 1839, when he came to Illinois and located on the farm which is now the home of his son and namesake, having

taken up the claim the previous year. He was one of the earliest settlers in the county and aided in the reclamation of the wild land for the purposes of civilization. With characteristic energy he broke the sod and tilled the fields, devoting his remaining days to general agricultural pursuits and adding to his possessions until he acquired three hundred and thirty-four acres in Wethersfield township and just across the line in Stark county. He was a very public-spirited man and took a keen interest in all local affairs. He died July 4, 1871, at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife survived until September 10, 1892. She bore the maiden name of Emiline Felton and was a native of New York state, born May 15, 1813. They were married January 31, 1839, at Peru, Huron county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller were active members of the Wethersfield Congregational church and both were highly esteemed for their many excellent traits of heart and mind. Their son Jehiel was the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, three of whom are living, the oldest being Mrs. Helen Maxfield, of Cincinnati, Ohio, while the brother, Baxter L., is a well known resident of Henry county.

Educated in the district schools, Jehiel Fuller afterward remained upon the home farm and has since made it his place of residence with the exception of the season of 1887 which he spent at St. Edward, Boone county, Nebraska, where he then owned a tract of land. He was eighteen years of age at his father's death, at which time he assumed charge of the farm and has since conducted it. Eighty acres were inherited by his older brother, Baxter, but he assumed the management of the remaining two hundred and fifty-four acres, and upon reaching his majority he and his brother bought out the interest of the other heirs, Jehiel Fuller securing two hundred acres. Subsequently he sold his brother twenty acres and bought eighty acres adjoining, so that he now has a farm of two hundred and sixty acres. The land is rich and arable and returns to him substantial harvests as a reward for the care and labor he has bestowed upon it. He has also remodeled and enlarged the home, has built all of the barns and other out-buildings now upon the place, and has made various improvements, equipping the farm with the most modern machinery to facilitate the work carried on. He has given his attention largely to stock-raising, principally handling good market cattle, hogs and sheep. He is also interested to some extent in farming lands in Colorado and Texas and he has various business interests in Toulon, Illinois, and elsewhere.

On the 4th of October, 1876, Mr. Fuller was married at Saxon, Illinois, to Miss Kitty Ellen Green, a daughter of Champion K. and G. A. Green, then of Wethersfield township, later of Logan county, Colorado, but now making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, to whom have been born three children: Helen Beatrice, born February 9, 1881; Ethel Inez, August 6, 1884; and William Green, born May 19, 1891. The last named is attending Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, while the daughters are graduates of the academy at Toulon and of Hedding College, at Abingdon, Illinois. The son is also a graduate of Toulon Academy.

In politics Mr. Fuller is a republican but not strongly partisan, and has never been an office seeker. He has, however, been called by his fellow townsmen to serve in several local offices. He was supervisor of Wethersfield township for

twelve consecutive years and school director for many years. He belongs to the Saxon Methodist Episcopal church in which he has served as trustee and in other offices, while for many years he has been superintendent of the Sunday school. He was a delegate from the central Illinois conference to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held at Baltimore in May, 1908. His wife and family are also active members of the church and Mrs. Fuller has been a member of the choir, a teacher in the Sunday school and an officer of the Epworth League for a number of years. The cause of education finds in Mr. Fuller a stalwart champion. He is a man of studious nature and has found his chief recreation in reading and travel. His interest is always concentrated in his farm, his church and his home, and he is one of the honored and representative citizens of Wethersfield township.

---

### OSCAR ERICKSON.

Oscar Erickson, one of the substantial farmers of Geneseo township, was born in Sweden, December 13, 1863, and is a son of John and Hannah Erickson, both natives of that land. The father was born in 1831, while his wife was two years his junior, and he had considerable experience in agriculture in the land of his birth before he decided to make a trial of the advantages claimed to be procurable in America. In 1866 he brought his family to the United States and upon his arrival in Henry county procured some land upon which he farmed until his death, which occurred about twenty years ago. His wife died about the same time and six of the seven children born to them have also passed away. Three of the latter, Albert, Ames and Amanda, for many years lived with their brother Oscar on his farm in Geneseo township. The sister was the first to die and Albert, the last. Like their parents, they were buried in the cemetery at Geneseo.

Oscar Erickson attended the Jackson school of Geneseo township and after hours for lessons and in the vacations worked for his father on the farm. Until he became of age he gave the latter the benefit of his toil, and then started in life for himself, working by the month during the summer, and in the winter attending school. In a few years he managed to save enough money to rent a farm in Geneseo township, and after four years, in 1892, bought one hundred and sixty acres of improved land on sections 10 and 11, Geneseo township. Here he engages in general farming and devotes considerable attention to the raising of Hereford, or white face, cattle, for which he finds a market in Geneseo and in the eastern cities. A creditable success has attended his earnest efforts, and he enjoys many of the comforts of life.

On the 11th of January, 1892, Mr. Erickson wedded Miss Sophia Johnson, who was born in Geneseo township in 1860. Her parents, Lawrence and Caroline Johnson, were natives of Sweden but came to Illinois at an early date and in Geneseo township made their home and reared their children. Mr. Johnson was actively engaged in farming during his life and when he died he was laid to rest in the cemetery here, which is the burial place for his wife and four of

his children. Mrs. Erickson has one sister and one brother living: Annie, the wife of Noah Johnson, who lives in Colorado; and Fred, who lives in Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson had three children, all of whom are living: Adolph, born April 24, 1895; Paul, born June 27, 1896; and Carrie, born May 26, 1898. Mrs. Erickson was a member of the Lutheran church and like her husband was industrious and hard working and by her frugality aiding him in accomplishing the tasks he had set for himself to perform. For two years before her death she had very poor health, and finally, April 14, 1903, she was released from her sufferings, being in her fortieth year. She was buried in Geneseo.

Like his father Mr. Erickson has given his support to the republican party, and has filled the position of school director with credit for several years. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is very active in its work, having held office for a long period. He has known what it meant to work early and late, to endure privations and to sacrifice desires to necessities, but he is now reaping the results of his frugality, for he is one of the rising farmers of this locality.

---

### JESSE S. TRACY.

Jesse S. Tracy, deceased, was a well known farmer, stock raiser and shipper, whose home is on the northwest quarter of section 17, Osco township. He was born in Lynn township, Henry county, July 7, 1863, a son of Joab and Mary Jane (Coon) Tracy. His parents were born in Morristown, Indiana, where they grew to maturity, became acquainted and were married, coming to Illinois on their wedding trip. They located first in Peoria county, where Joab Tracy farmed on rented land for a year and then removed to Rock Island county, where he lived for three years. Then he came to Henry county to take up a government homestead claim in Lynn township, the deed to which was signed by Franklin Pierce. It was unimproved land at the time, but, undaunted, Mr. Tracy soon had it producing richly. There he spent all the years of his active life, retiring to New Windsor, Mercer county, when he decided to put aside business cares. In that town he and his wife were living when they celebrated their golden wedding, which was attended by all their children and many of their grandchildren. There he passed away and was buried in 1903, and there his widow still lives. He was a democrat in his political views and four of his sons espoused the same party. When he arrived in Henry county he had fifty dollars in money, a blind horse and one that balked. The first night here he spent under an oak tree in Andover township, near the village of that name, but before his death he owned twenty-two hundred acres of land, which enabled him to give each of his sons and daughters a farm.

Ten children were born to him and his wife: William Riley married Miss Mary Barrett and lives on a farm in Oxford township, this county. They have two children. James Albert married Miss Lena Malthrop and is a commission merchant in Chicago. Willis Douglas married Miss Orlena F. Reynolds and lives on a farm just outside of Galesburg. They have eight children. Ellen is the wife of Charles Kinsey and lives on a farm in Mercer county. They have four

children. Catherine married Allen Gayre and lives near Sherrard, Mercer county. She is the mother of two children. Jesse S., the sixth of the family, is the subject of this sketch. Rachel was the wife of Guy Fields and lived in Western township, where she died leaving one child. Joab Jackson married Miss Harriett Wirsing and lives on the old homestead in Lynn township. He has one child. Minnie Prink died unmarried at the age of twenty-two years. Mary Jane married Dalas Petrie and lives in Lynn township. They have one child.

Jesse S. Tracy grew to manhood on the homestead in Lynn township and in the common schools received a fair education. In the spring of 1884, when he became of age, he removed to the farm he occupied at his death, which was a gift from his father. The latter gave each of his sons three horses and a farming outfit, and to each of his daughters its equal value in household goods, and established each upon a piece of land which he later willed to them. On this land Mr. Tracy lived and worked, tilling the soil and feeding cattle for the markets, and in 1904 bought eighty acres additional, for which he paid one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. This brought his acreage to two hundred and forty and enabled him to attain to a substantial position in the agricultural community here.

In the village of Osco, December 17, 1885, Mr. Tracy wedded Miss Kittie Kilmer, of Osco township. She was born here and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Sperbeck) Kilmer. The father was a native of Schoharie county, New York, where he was reared to the life of a farmer and where he married his first wife, by whom he had four sons and four daughters. In 1858 he came to Henry county, Illinois, buying one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township. He afterward lived in Rock Island, and Morristown. In 1878 he moved to the village of Osco, where he lived until his death in 1887. In 1865 he married the second time, and of that union were born Mrs. Tracy and a younger sister, Edna, who is the wife of Walter G. Hopkins, of Osco village, and the mother of four children. Mrs. Tracy's mother died in 1893, and was buried in the cemetery at Morristown.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tracy was born one son, Glenn Kilmer, born October 9, 1887. In 1902 he finished the eighth grade work and then, while at the home school, completed the first two years' work of the high school at Cambridge. In 1904 he entered the junior class of that school and was graduated in 1906, attaining the highest grade for the work of the last two years. He then took the teacher's examination and again secured the highest grade of any in the graduating class of ten. The year of 1906-7 he spent in teaching in the school near his home and in the fall of 1907 entered upon a four years' agricultural course in the University of Illinois at Urbana. In the spring of his sophomore year he won a gold medal for military competitive work, with which he was decorated by General Frederick Dent Grant. He looked forward to graduating with the class of 1911, but owing to the death of his father at the beginning of his junior year he returned home and is now endeavoring to carry on the farm successfully.

Mr. Tracy was a democrat in his political views and for six years served as justice of the peace, and though in that time some of his decisions were appealed, none were ever reversed. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Orion and of the Modern Woodmen of America at Osco. In the camp

here he has served as venerable consul for three years and in the camp of Henry county for one year. With his wife he also belonged to the Royal Neighbors, and they and their son were devout members of Grace Episcopal church, of which Mr. Tracy was a vestryman. After a useful and well spent life he passed away on the 28th of September, 1909, from inflammation of the spinal cord. He was sick only ten days, and it was not thought that the disease would prove fatal until a few hours before his death. He was a very kind and indulgent father, and a most exemplary and loving husband, and his loss is deeply felt by his wide circle of friends and acquaintances, as well as by the immediate community.

---

#### THOMAS W. KERR.

In the death of Thomas W. Kerr Hanna township lost one of its best men and a citizen of whom any community might well be proud for he was upright, fearless and devoted to his home and family. He was a man of the highest integrity, gentle and warm-hearted, and he drew friends to him and held them through life. All who know him respected him and although years have elapsed since he was called to his reward, his memory is tenderly cherished.

Mr. Kerr was born in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1830, a son of Zachariah and Margaret Kerr. The family removed from the Keystone state to Ohio and there Mr. Kerr resided for nine years before coming to Illinois in 1857. Arriving here, he located in Hanna township, Henry county, and in 1859 married Amanda Henninger, who survived him many years. He and his wife had a family of nine children, all but two growing to maturity, and they were with him in his last illness, which resulted in his death, February 29, 1896.

When a young man Mr. Kerr joined the Presbyterian church and its faith was a great comfort and support to him during his long illness as well as in his active days. The funeral services were conducted in his late residence by the Rev. S. H. Weed, of Hanna Center, assisted by the Revs. J. H. Skidmore and W. J. Ward, while the Green River choir rendered some choice selections.

Mr. Kerr is remembered as a man of the highest moral character, and although he was permitted to amass a comfortable fortune it was not through taking advantage of his fellow creatures but as the result of years of industry and economical habits. A good man, he believed others true, and enjoyed his friendship with his neighbors and his associations with his church.

---

#### MRS. AMANDA KERR.

Mrs. Amanda Kerr, widow of the late Thomas W. Kerr, was one of the most beloved women of Henry county. One of her most notable characteristics was her courage, and she was industrious, while truth and uprightness were her watchwords. She was born in Wooster, Ohio, February 23, 1841, a daughter of

Jacob and Susan Henninger, very early settlers of Hanna township, Henry county, to which they came in 1846.

In 1859 Miss Henninger married Thomas W. Kerr and they commenced housekeeping in Hanna township. After his death, February 29, 1896, she lived with her children, all of whom claimed the privilege of ministering to her, and she died November 11, 1908, at the home of her daughter Mrs. Percy Davis after four years of ill health as the result of a paralytic stroke. Mrs. Kerr bore her husband nine children and all but two grew to mature years, namely: Mrs. Ella Withrow, Mrs. Amy Burton, G. W. Kerr, Mrs. Lena Withrow, Mrs. Mina Davis, J. E. Kerr, and H. Z. Kerr, all of whom attended her funeral with the exception of Mrs. Burton, whose home in Montford, Montana, was too far distant for her to arrive in time. Mrs. Kerr's two brothers, George and Fletcher Henninger, and her sister, Mrs. Phoebe Malone, were also at the funeral. The other members of her family who are now deceased are: Mrs. Elizabeth Stanbro, Mrs. Harriet Bacon, John, Hiram and Mrs. Clara Walker.

The services were held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Davis the Saturday following her demise, the Rev. F. A. Smiley, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiating. The choir rendered her favorite hymns and her remains were interred in Oakwood cemetery.

Mrs. Kerr during her earlier life worked with tireless energy and faithful love for her family. She ever maintained a deep affection for her home and the duties pertaining to it. In her daily life she set an example of womanly devotion and sweetness of disposition that have helped many struggling to become better and truer wives and mothers, while to her immediate family she was the one who was ever ready to listen and assist. Her place can never be filled. In the hearts of her children she is enthroned as long as life lasts, and they look forward to joining her with their father in the land where there are no partings and families will once more be reunited.

---

#### LOUIS A. SCHROEDER.

One of the substantial farmers and stockmen of Henry county is Louis Schroeder, who on his farm on the northwest quarter of section 32, Edford township, makes a specialty of breeding Cotswold sheep and shorthorn cattle. He was born in that township, near Geneseo, April 24, 1877, and is the son of George H. and Wilhelmina (Weigand) Schroeder. Both parents are still living in Geneseo, whither the father retired after his arduous labors as a tiller of the soil.

Louis Schroeder was reared at home under the guidance of his parents and was early initiated into the work on the farm. He attended the country school of his district, and after having completed the course of study prescribed continued his education at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. He then returned to the paternal farm, and until his twenty-third year rendered his father valuable assistance. He then went to Osco township, rented some land and farmed there for three years. Six years ago he returned to Edford township, where he pur-

chased his present farm of one hundred and eighty acres of fine land. Several substantial buildings have since been erected, the old have been put in good repair, and the soil has been subjected to a systematic cultivation that will increase its fertility as the years pass on.

In the city of Geneseo, on the 24th day of January, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Schroeder and Miss Carrie Weidlein, a daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Conrad) Weidlein. Mrs. Schroeder is a native of this county, her birth having occurred in Osco township, and she has become the mother of two children: Merle W. and Kenneth Lyle.

When called upon to exercise his franchise, he invariably casts his vote for the republican candidates as representing the choice of the party with whose principles he is in most accord. He has not, however, given much time to either political or public matters, although he takes a deep interest in questions of importance, especially as they concern his fellow citizens and for one term served as collector for his township. His farm and stock demand the most of his attention, and by hard work he has brought both to a high standard and has made a place for himself among the prominent members of his community.

---

#### OLOF MATTSON.

Pluck must surely be included among the virile elements which constitute the character of Olof Mattson, one of Lynn township's representative citizens. Like so many settlers in this locality he is Swedish by birth, having been born in the Scandinavian peninsula, June 1, 1854, a son of Mattes Thomason and Catherine (Olson) Mattson. When a lad of six years, Olof Mattson lost his mother, and when only fourteen years of age he came alone to America, where a brother, Thomas Mattson, had preceded him. Going first to Galesburg, Illinois, he found employment in the surrounding country as a farm hand, and pieced out what education he had received in his native land with a few months' attendance at a winter school. In two years' time he removed to Ophiem, where he engaged in farm work until his marriage in 1877. Through thrift and industry he now found himself in a position to take up the cultivation of some land about one mile west of Ophiem, and a little later removed to a farm one-half mile east of that village where he has since resided. Three hundred and thirty-five acres of fine land, well improved and under a high state of cultivation, constitute this most desirable homestead. With a view to permanency, all the improvements are substantial and modern, including every available appliance conducive to convenience and comfort. Mr. Mattson engages exclusively in farming, in which his wonderfully progressive ideas have made him most successful. In addition to his agricultural interests he is a stockholder in the State Bank of Orion.

On January 18, 1877, Mr. Mattson was united in marriage to Miss Maria S. Samuelson, daughter of John and Caroline (Peterson) Samuelson. Her parents came from Sweden in 1849 and were accompanied to the new world by her father's brother, Charles J. Samuelson, and his family. These brothers first located in Andover, Illinois, but as soon as their resources would permit,



MR. AND MRS. OLOF MATTSO



they purchased a forty acre tract of land near Ophiem and began farming. At the beginning their means were limited in the extreme, but they possessed those excellent assets—industry, thrift and a courage which refused to recognize adversity. In consequence they prospered, becoming large landowners and prominent in the affairs of the community. John Samuelson and his wife were the parents of eleven children, five of whom died upon the voyage to America and two since coming here. Three sons and one daughter are yet living, these being: Leander, a prosperous farmer of Lynn township; Solomon, of Nebraska; Maria Sophia, now Mrs. Olof Mattson, wife of the subject of this sketch; and John H., a prosperous farmer of Lynn township. Mr. Samuelson was republican in politics and in this matter all his sons have followed in his footsteps. He was a man who became a recognized factor in public affairs, and among his public services must be mentioned that of road commissioner of Lynn township for several years, township treasurer and school director. He and his family were members of the Lutheran church, in which for many years he served as trustee and treasurer. This fine man passed on to his reward in June, 1887, his widow surviving until March, 1895, and both are interred in the Ophiem cemetery. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Olof Mattson has been blessed by the birth of four children: Lillie E., now the wife of Claus A. Nelson, a Lynn township farmer; Arthur M.; Hilda A.; and Edith E. M., the three latter at home.

Mr. Mattson is an active and enthusiastic champion of the republican party. He is and has been for a number of years the Lynn township member of the county republican central committee and his associates have entrusted him with their representation at county, district and state conventions. He has also been a member of the township board of election. For fully a dozen years he has given efficient service as township road commissioner, which position he still holds, and cognizant of the important part played by education in the life of a community, the township has long rejoiced in having his counsel as a member of the Ophiem board of education. For thirty years Mr. Mattson has been a deacon in the Lutheran church, with which his family are also affiliated and to whose affairs they generously contribute of their time and strength. The entire family are active in all matters pertaining to the elevation of the community. Their home is greatly sought, being attractive in all its appointments, modern in its improvements and abundantly supplied with the best standard and current literature. No one will deny that the Mattson household exerts a beneficial influence in Ophiem and the surrounding neighborhood.

---

#### HARVEY ULYSSES LOUGH.

The agricultural interests of Henry county find a worthy representative in Harvey Ulysses Lough, who owns and operates a fine farm on section 30, Osco township. He was born on a farm near Morgantown, Monongalia county, West Virginia, on the 2d of March, 1854, and is the ninth in a family of twelve children born unto Mathew and Malinda Lough. Amid the scenes and environ-

ments of rural life he was reared to manhood and at the usual age was sent as a pupil to the district schools, where he received a good common school education which well equipped him for the practical and responsible duties of life. The periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the farm and he early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the agriculturist. He continued to give his father the benefit of his assistance in the cultivation of the fields until twenty-one years of age, when he started out in the business world on his own account, being engaged by the day. He was thus employed until 1877, when, being attracted by the opportunities offered by the middle west, he came to Henry county, Illinois, in search of a location. He stopped at Cambridge for two or three days and then came to Osco, where he worked by the month for about four years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings, being imbued with the ambition of some day engaging in farming on his own account. In 1881 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Holland, of Osco township, who was born in West Virginia, a daughter of Eli and Louisa (Tarleton) Holland. For a few years after his marriage he operated rented land in connection with his father-in-law, and then, in 1895, he purchased his present farm of one hundred and seventy-four acres, located on section 30, Osco township, paying fifteen thousand dollars for the property. He has greatly improved the farm since it has come into his possession and has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, the property being now worth one hundred and seventy-five dollars per acre. In addition to general farming he has also engaged in feeding and shipping cattle, and both branches of his business have been so wisely and carefully conducted that he has won substantial success, so that he is numbered among the representative and prosperous agriculturists of the township.

As the years passed Mr. and Mrs. Lough became the parents of three children. The eldest, James Roy, was born on the 28th of July, 1882, and received a good common school education. He is now married, the lady of his choice being Miss Nellie Johnson, of Woodhull, and he makes his home in Osco township, Illinois. Linnie and Louise, twins, were born on the 5th of August, 1885, but the latter passed away May 12, 1902. Linnie graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, with the class of 1908, and is now engaged in teaching. On the 29th of October, 1887, the wife and mother was called to her final rest, and on the 24th of January, 1891, in Morgantown, West Virginia, Mr. Lough was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Anna Arnett, nee Holland, a first cousin of his former wife and a daughter of Solomon and Julia Holland. By a former marriage she had two children: Charles Irvin Arnett, who married Mabel Tomlinson and lives at Panora, Iowa; and Nellie, who died at the age of one year. By his second marriage Mr. Lough became the father of three children. George Walter, who was born December 4, 1892, completed the eighth grade in the district school and attended the high school at Orion for a short time and entered Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Glenn Harvey, whose birth occurred on the 11th of December, 1895, has also completed eighth grade, and entered Orion high school. John Holland, born on the 26th of November, 1898, is still a pupil in the grammar school.

Mr. Lough and his entire family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as trustee for some years, while in his fraternal

relation he is identified with Camp No. 261, M. W. A., of Orion, Illinois. A stalwart supporter of the republican party, he cast his first presidential ballot for Hayes in 1876, and since that time has voted for every candidate on that ticket. Although he is not an aspirant for office, he is, nevertheless, public-spirited in his citizenship and no matter which has for its object the substantial upbuilding and progress of the community is refused his endorsement and cooperation. He is one of the active and progressive farmers of Osco township, a man of good business capacity and enterprise and of unquestioned business integrity, enjoying in an unusual degree the confidence and good will of the community.

---

### OSCAR A. SHERMAN.

Oscar A. Sherman, now living retired at Woodhull after a life of exceptional activity, was born June 4, 1841, in Essex county, New York, a son of Samuel and Azubah (Greene) Sherman. The parents removed from that state to Galesburg, Illinois, in 1850, before any railroads had reached that town, the trip being made entirely by water to Buffalo and thence by the Erie canal and the lakes to Chicago. From Chicago to Peoria they traveled by the Illinois and Michigan canal and at the latter place took wagons. The trip consumed a month and when they arrived at Galesburg they found only a straggling village with the surrounding country in a wild condition, totally unimproved. Samuel Sherman engaged in farming in Knox county and prospered in his ventures. He spent the remainder of his life there, retiring in 1875 from his farm to Galesburg and dying in that city in the fall of that year. His widow survived him ten years, passing away in 1885.

Oscar A. Sherman alternated working on the farm with attending the district school and the public schools of Galesburg until he enlisted in the Union army, August 6, 1862. He enrolled with Company D, One Hundred and Second Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served until May 30, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. His regiment was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, was with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign and the march to the sea, as well as other engagements in which that army took part. In the battle of Goldsboro he was taken prisoner in March, 1865, and confined at Saulsbury, North Carolina, for eleven days. During this time he was kept marching nearly all the time in company with his fellow prisoners to keep them all from falling into the hands of the Union army. After the surrender at Appomattox he was released at Augusta, Georgia, and without rations of any kind was forced to walk sixty miles before reaching government aid at Savannah, where they met with a hearty reception. At the battle of New Hope Church, Georgia, in May, 1864, he sustained a serious scalp wound, but as soon as released from the hospital he rejoined his regiment. Mr. Sherman served as a non-commissioned officer, carrying the regimental banner from Resaca to Atlanta, being a splendid soldier, always faithful to duty and held in high regard by his superior officers.

At the close of the war Mr. Sherman returned to his father's home, where he remained until 1874, when he removed to Clover township, and until 1883 was

engaged in farming, but in that year he moved to Woodhull, establishing a livery business, in which he was engaged until 1891, when he sold his interests and retired from active life.

On December 25, 1859, Mr. Sherman married Jennette Marble, a daughter of William Marble, of Knox county. He left his wife and a ten months old daughter when he enlisted in the army, thus doubly proving his patriotism. To him and his wife were born four daughters, namely: Minnie E., now the widow of George Graves; Lettie M., the widow of Thomas Farrell; Myrtie A., who is deceased; and Rhena B., who married Seth Daily. The mother of these died November 7, 1887. On February 24, 1888, Mr. Sherman married Fanny S. Davis, a daughter of George and Ada (Keyes) Davis, natives of Buckinghamshire, England, who came to this country in 1837, settling in Connecticut, later moving to New York state and in 1852 coming to Galesburg, Illinois, where they lived until 1871, in which year they located at Woodhull. Mr. Davis was a shoemaker and a highly respected citizen of Woodhull, who died in November, 1893, being survived by his widow until April 6, 1909, both being buried in the Woodhull cemetery. One daughter, Elizabeth A., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and she is married to A. O. Nelson, of Galesburg.

Mr. Sherman is a republican and has held the office of township constable for thirty years and police constable for eighteen years. He has also been a member of the village council and of the school board and has been faithful to every public trust reposed in him. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen and during the existence of Shields Post, G. A. R., he was an active member of it. The whole family are affiliated with the Methodist church and are active in church and Sunday-school work. As both soldier and citizen Mr. Sherman has done his full duty and no higher praise can be accorded him.

---

### THOMAS F. OLIVER.

Thomas F. Oliver, who devotes his time and energies to general farming in Wethersfield township, was born May 1, 1857, on the tract of land which he now owns and cultivates. His father, William Oliver, became a resident of Henry county in 1854 and in 1838 of Stark county, Illinois. Only six years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and evidences of Indian occupancy and of pioneer life were seen on every hand. He was born in Ross-shire, Scotland, February 7, 1827, his parents being Thomas and Margaret (Fife) Oliver, who were natives of Roxburghshire, where their marriage was celebrated. In 1837 the family came to the United States and the following year established their home in Stark county, Illinois, being among the first settlers of what is now Elmira township. There Thomas Oliver turned the first furrows upon the tract of land which in course of time he made a well improved farm. It continued to be his place of residence until he was called to his final rest. His wife had died some years before.

In the pioneer schools of Illinois William Oliver pursued his early education and later attended Knox College at Galesburg. When not busy with his text-

books his time and energies were given to the work of the home farm, for he assisted his father in the cultivation of the fields until his marriage. It was on the 7th of April, 1854, in Stark county, that he wedded Miss Elizabeth Trumbull, who was born and reared in Scotland and was a daughter of William Trumbull, also a pioneer of Stark county. After their marriage William Oliver and his wife settled on a farm in Wethersfield township, Henry county, where he purchased two hundred acres of wild land which he broke and placed under cultivation. He added to his landed possession from time to time until he had six hundred and forty acres, on which he built a good residence and substantial barns and outbuildings. There he successfully carried on farming until 1898, when he rented his place and built a home in Wethersfield, retiring from active life. His first wages earned in his early boyhood were ten cents per day. Gradually, however, he received an increased remuneration for his services until in the course of years he was able to make investment in farm property and by his careful cultivation and management of his business interests gained substantial success. In community affairs he was prominent, serving as a member of the school board and also as a school director in his district, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He and his family are earnest and consistent members of the United Presbyterian church and his political allegiance is given to the republican party.

Thomas F. Oliver supplemented his district school education by study in the Kewanee high school and later took up work on the home farm, where he remained until twenty-three years of age. At that time he was married and began farming for himself, cultivating a tract of one hundred and sixty acres about a mile west of his present home. He lived upon that place for four years and then removed to the Henry Scott farm of one hundred and sixty acres just across the road from the old homestead. He cultivated the two properties until 1899, when he settled upon the home farm, comprising two hundred and forty acres. He has since cultivated this tract as well as the Henry Scott farm, thus having charge of a total of four hundred acres. The greater part of the land is under cultivation, while the balance is devoted to hay and pasture. Mr. Oliver feeds a large amount of stock and in 1908 he started a herd of red polled cattle, which he intends shall be made second to none in the country. He now has a fine bull and a good herd of thoroughbred cows. He also raises about one hundred and fifty good market hogs each year. Since taking charge of the farm he has built barns and made other improvements which are of a most modern character. A deep well which he had drilled is the source of the pneumatic water supply which furnishes his house. For ten years he has been the owner of a farm and his labors have made it a very valuable property, equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. In June, 1909, he purchased a five-passenger, four-cylinder Maxwell car, which is one of the finest automobiles in this section. He is a director of the Union National Bank of Kewanee and his name is an honored one on commercial paper.

On the 24th of December, 1881, Mr. Oliver was married in Wethersfield township to Miss Jennie R. Scott, a daughter of Henry Scott, a prominent farmer of this locality. She died leaving four children: Mary Adela, the wife of Robert Ogle, of Toulon, Illinois; Elizabeth, at home; Henry S., at home; and Kitty Belle,

who completes the family. On the 15th of March, 1899, Mr. Oliver was again married, his second union being with Sibella Armstrong, of Toulon, Stark county. There are also four children of this marriage: Agnes Helen and Anna Hazel, twins, nine years of age; Lois Sibella, six years old; and William Armstrong, now in his second year.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Oliver are members of the Elmira Presbyterian church and he has served as chairman of its board of trustees for about ten years. In politics he is a republican, active in the local ranks of the party. He has served as a school trustee for many years but has never aspired to political office, preferring to lend his aid to others who have greater desire for political honors and emoluments. He has always preferred to give his attention to his business affairs and his capable management is seen in the success which is now his. He is one of the representative farmers of the county, thoroughly progressive in all that he does.

---

#### GUST PETER ANDERSON.

Gust Peter Anderson, one of the thrifty Swedish farmers of Geneseo township, was born in Porter county, Indiana, September 30, 1867, and is a son of Peter and Charlotte (Swanson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden. The father was born March 17, 1831, and came to America in July, 1854, locating in Indiana, near Lake Station, which was then about forty miles from Chicago. There he mowed grass and hay for his oxen in fields which have now been included within the limits of that great city or are on the outskirts of its suburbs. After about fifteen years' residence in Indiana he came to Illinois, settling upon the farm in Geneseo township, where his son now lives. While he was in the former state he was drafted into the army during the Civil war, but before he was ready to enlist hostilities had ceased and no service was exacted of him. In 1898 he passed away. He had been a republican in political matters and had served as school director, while he was a devout member of the Swedish Mission church. Within four or five weeks of his death his wife also passed away. She was born February 3, 1835, shared with her husband the many privations of their early life here, and like him was buried in the cemetery of the Swedish Mission. Eleven children were born to the couple, four of whom are now living. Among them were: Hattie, who is the wife of J. L. Johnson, of Gowrie, Webster county, Iowa; Gust Peter, of this review; Charles O., of Stavelly, Alberta, Canada; Annie, who was the wife of Charles Lyden, of Denver, Colorado, and died July 31, 1903; Minnie, who died November 1, 1895, unmarried; and Theodore W., of Cambridge, Illinois.

Gust Peter Anderson received his education in the Jackson school of Geneseo township and worked with his father on the home place during vacations and through his school period until he became of age, when he embarked in farming for himself. For about seven or eight years he rented land and then, in 1900, he and his brother Charles O. bought the place on which he now lives and which they both own. Here Mr. Anderson follows general farming and has also engaged extensively in the raising of stock for the market. Thrifty and in-

telligent, unsparing of hard work when necessary, he has found that good harvests have made a rich return for his toil and that his cattle are readily disposed of, thus netting him a substantial return.

On the 26th of March, 1895, Mr. Anderson wedded Miss Amanda Blomquist, who was born in Loraine township, July 18, 1872. Her parents, August and Christine (Erickson) Blomquist, were natives of Sweden, the father having been born March 22, 1835, the mother June 18, 1828. In 1869 they came to America, and after living for one year with Mr. Erickson in Geneseo township, they bought land in Loraine township, which they still own, although Mrs. Blomquist makes her home with Mr. Anderson. Three children were born to them, the two living being Mrs. Anderson and Helma, who, unmarried, lives in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have had five children, all born upon the home farm where Mr. Anderson's parents lived for so long. They are Helen Charlotte, born June 25, 1896, who attends school; Inez Florine and Irene Frances, twins, born September 28, 1900; Willard Peter, born July 26, 1902; and Dwight Wesley, born January 12, 1909.

In his political views Mr. Anderson is a republican and has served as school director for a number of years, while his religious allegiance is given to the Swedish Mission church, of which he is treasurer. Frugal and hard working, a man whose honorable relations with his fellowmen have been put to the test, he enjoys the sincere respect of all who know him, and like his wife has made many staunch friends.

---

#### S. P. NEYSTROM.

Remarkably popular in his community, a leader in the younger generation, of which he is still a member, is S. P. Neystrom, of Lynn township. He was born March 2, 1877, in Clover township, Henry county, and of Swedish origin, his parents being Charles and Anna (Samuelson) Neystrom, both natives of Sweden. They came when young people to America, making the voyage on the same vessel, and were married after reaching the "land of promise." In Henry county, Illinois, they established their home and here, after working for some time as a farm hand, the father by industry and rigid economy succeeded in acquiring a farm of his own. Here they lived out their useful lives, the mother going to her heavenly rest in October, 1886, and the father surviving until 1895. Their mortal remains were interred in the cemetery at Woodhull.

S. P. Neystrom enjoyed the wholesome and interesting experiences of one who spends his boyhood and youth upon the farm and acquired his education in the Woodhull public schools. After his marriage in 1899 he removed to the Lindquist homestead in Lynn township, once the property of his wife's father, and on this tract of one hundred and twenty acres of fine land, well improved and fertile, Mr. Neystrom is proving himself one of the progressive agriculturists of the county. He engages in general farming and stock feeding and makes a specialty of thoroughbred Poland China hogs, finding sale for his stock in the home market.

On November 22, 1899, Mr. Neystrom was married to Miss Amanda Lindquist, a daughter of Gustaf and Caroline (Mars) Lindquist. Her parents, like those of her husband, were of Swedish birth and also like them came to this country when young people and were married here. By hard work and honest methods the father acquired a competency and was a man highly respected by all who knew him. He died in March, 1900, his widow, who still survives him, making her home with her daughter and son-in-law on the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Neystrom are the parents of two daughters, Pearl Irene and Gladys Leona.

Mr. Neystrom is a warm advocate of the measures inaugurated by the republican party and the men advanced to carry them out. He is a man naturally fitted to take an active part in public affairs and that this fact is recognized by his associates is evidenced by the manifold trusts that have been reposed in him. He has been sent as a delegate to many conventions; has filled the office of township clerk for several years; was justice of the peace for one term; is president of the school board, in the spring of 1906 was elected a member of the county board of supervisors from Lynn township and was reelected in 1908; and is chairman of the committee on the county farm and paupers. In addition to this Mr. Neystrom is a popular member of the Fraternal Tribune, and both he and his wife are active workers in the Andover Evangelical Lutheran church. In short he is not only a man who makes a success of the occupation he has chosen, but he is a valuable citizen, in that he is broad-minded and willing to support by deeds as well as words any measure calculated to benefit and elevate his community. In his high ideals he is seconded by his wife, a most estimable woman, devoted to her home and family.

---

### JOHN H. SCHROEDER.

John H. Schroeder, one of the native farmers and stockmen of Edford township, was born on section 15, February 11, 1868. His parents, G. Henry and Wilhelmina (Wiegand) Schroeder, were of German birth and upon coming to this country engaged in farming in Edford township, this county, on section 15, and later on section 23, where Charles Schroeder now makes his home. They are now living in Geneseo, having put aside the heavier of life's cares.

John H. Schroeder is the third in order of birth in a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters. He was reared at home and acquired a good education, for after he had completed the course offered by the district school he went to the Northwestern Normal in Geneseo for two years. He had from childhood worked upon the home farm, and when his school life was over he returned to it to assume its cares and responsibilities in real earnest. After his marriage he brought his bride to the farm where he now lives. In 1903 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in another part of the township. He pursues general farming and has quite extensively engaged in the stock business, making a specialty of polled Angus cattle.

In Osco township, January 30, 1895, Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage to Miss Nora E. Weidlein. She was born in that section of Henry county and is a daughter of Andrew and Sarah E. (Conrad) Weidlein. Two children have been born to the couple: Lucile K. and Arley J. Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder are members of the Congregational church and endeavor to lead good Christian lives. In his political views Mr. Schroeder leans toward the democratic party, but he is independent in his attitude toward local matters, casting his vote for the man or measure that appeals to him as the right one. He has not been desirous of holding office, but for a period of eleven years he served very efficiently as town clerk. Fully alive to the necessity for hard work and determined to be numbered among the more prosperous of the township's farmers, he has gained the good will of all who have come in contact with him.

---

### ANDREW GUSTAV SODERBERG.

Andrew Gustav Soderberg, an importer and breeder of Clydesdale and English Shire horses, has perhaps won more prizes for his animals than any other man in Henry county, and no one can know the story of his life without marveling at the success to which he has attained, handicapped as he was from his birth by poverty and destitute of those advantages which an education gives a man. He lives in Osco township, and having, in a spirit of loyalty bestowed its name upon some of his finest animals, has been the means of spreading the fame of the township beyond the bounds of this state.

He was born in Oestergötland, Sweden, May 30, 1853, and is the son of Jonas and Gustava (Anderson) Soderberg. He was reared on a farm and in the lumber business and never attended school, not even for one day. At the age of eleven he left home, finding work for which he was paid wages. He saved his money carefully and at the age of fifteen bought two lambs, which he handed over to some poor people who received half of what they produced for keeping them. He followed the same practice with cows and steer calves, so that he gradually added to his accumulations.

In December, 1874, Mr. Soderberg married and the next summer he started on the journey to America. He had not contemplated the trip at the time, in fact not until within a few weeks before setting out. On July 15 a friend suggested his trying his fortunes in the new world and August 11 he and his wife were ready to embark. They boarded the steamer "City of Richmond," and after sixteen days upon the water landed in New York. A Mrs. Swanson, whose acquaintance they made on shipboard, and who had been to America before and was returning after having buried her husband in Sweden, had lived for a time in Henry county, Illinois, and persuaded the Soderbergs to come here. Arriving at Cambridge, they started to look for work in the country, walking barefoot through the mud as they were desirous of saving their shoes, until they came to a place where men were cutting broom corn. Mr. Soderberg hired out to one man, and his wife to another, for the journey to America had consumed all of their little store. In the fall of 1876 they went to housekeeping in Osco town-

ship and both worked for Charles Hoefland. In 1877 he worked by the month for Charles Holmes on the William Davis place and made his home on land he had purchased in Osco township. The next year, 1878, he began to dig tile ditches, and as he was the first man engaged in this work in Osco township his services were in great demand. Accordingly he employed three crews of men, took them to Orion and showed them how to make tiles in two sections, this being the first tile made of clay in the neighborhood. When a protracted dry season necessitated the digging of deep wells, he turned his energies to boring, using a pod auger with a long handle to which he fastened a piece of piping to increase its length. This he drove down to a depth of seventy feet when he found water. He secured the aid of a blacksmith to snake the auger, but he had to show him how to do it.

While still in the tiling business Mr. Soderberg began to invest in horses, buying his first, General Grant, in Mercer county. With him he won first prize in Chicago at the Illinois State Fair, at which he also exhibited Galloway Tom, who also bore off a first prize. In 1883 his membership in the American Breeders Association, in the Clydesdale Association and in the Shire Association made him a member of the fair, and he entered upon the breeding of fine horses, a business which has grown to large proportions and from which he has won great distinction. As time went on and he saw opportunity opening before him he began to cross the water to select fine stock, bringing back with him as many as twenty head at a time. Of course he exhibited at many places and the ribbons he has in his possession, indicating the number of times he has won first premium, are bewildering in their profusion. In fact it was suggested to him, by a man who was to write up his success, that the only way in which to obtain an adequate idea of them was to have them photographed, for they would in all probability count into the thousands. A few of his horses, however, deserve especial mention. Lady Byron may well come first. In 1891 she won the silver medal at the animal show in Chicago, fifty-seven first ribbons, and a silver coffee urn, after obtaining which she was forever barred from further showing. Mr. Soderberg has sold over thirteen thousand dollars' worth of her colts and still has her on his farm with a colt at her side. She is the mother of Baron Prince, which won the champion cup at Illinois State Fair in 1906. She is also the mother of Osco Kerner and the grand-dam of Osco Sweetness. With Baron Prince, Osco Queen, Osco Sweetness and Osco Kerner, Mr. Soderberg won the solid silver loving-cup at the Illinois State Fair in 1906. In the same year with Baron Prince he won the champion silver cup donated by Scotland and with Osco Queen the champion silver cup donated by the American Association. With Osco Rose in Kansas City in 1906 he won a gold medal and in the same year and place another gold medal with Noble King. In 1908 with Osco Sylvia he won gold medal, first prize, and champion and gold medal, three prizes in Chicago and in the Iowa and Illinois State Fairs, of the same year. Until 1902, along with his experiments in the breeding of horses, he carried on his work in well-boring.

Mr. Soderberg has been married twice. On the 31st of December, 1874, when he had only five hundred kroner, he wedded in Sweden Miss Caroline Peterson. She shared with him the hardships of the ocean journey and of his first years

in this new country, but did not live to witness his full success, for she died in 1896. Unto them were born the following children: Andrew Oliver, who died at the age of two and a half; Clarence Bert, who is married and lives in Alberta, Canada, on a farm of nine hundred and four acres, owned by his father; Frank Oliver, a horseman of Greeley, Colorado; Mabel, unmarried, who lives in Alberta, Canada; Manghill, unmarried, of High River, Canada; and Esther at home. On the 25th of December, 1901, Mr. Soderberg married Hannah Ulrica Anderson. She was born in Oestergötland, Sweden, October 18, 1865, and is a daughter of Charles Ulrich and Louisa (Johnson) Anderson. Her father came to America when she was about three years old, and a year and a half later she came here with her mother. They located on a farm near New London, Henry county, Iowa, and when about fifteen she came to Illinois, securing work in Moline. There she married Mr. Ohrn and by this union there were three children born. Frances Hannah is a graduate of the Moline high school and is now a teacher in the schools of her home district. Carl Leonard lives with Mr. Soderberg. Arnold Frederick, the youngest, after completing the eighth grade, passed highest of all the competitors in the central examinations, receiving an average of ninety-eight and three-fifths per cent, which entitled him to a year's free tuition at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. That year has now expired and he is the bookkeeper in the Osco Farmers Bank.

The honors Mr. Soderberg has won with his horses are an indication of his skill and success as a breeder of fine animals, but his financial prosperity is more accurately estimated by the land he holds. In 1889 he bought seventy-four and a half acres, on which he now lives, and later added eighteen acres to this. In 1905 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of improved land in Sherman county, Kansas. He then invested in one hundred and sixty acres in Alberta, Canada, and shortly after bought nine hundred and four acres there. His last acquisition is eighty-two acres in Adair county, Iowa. Remarkable possessions for any man, they are particularly worthy of note in the case of Mr. Soderberg, when it is remembered that he began his business life at the age of eleven, for a very small wage and without having had any schooling.

---

### ELMER SAMUEL GOOD.

Elmer Samuel Good, in business life one of the best known furniture dealers of Henry county, is a man who has made his presence felt in Kewanee and has influenced the community for the better in many ways. He was born three miles east of the city, May 14, 1863, and is a son of Samuel W. and Mary A. (Northrop) Good, who came from Zanesville, Ohio, to Henry county, Illinois, and were farming people. The Good family came from the country district of Pennsylvania, while the Northrop family came from Philadelphia.

The education of Elmer Samuel Good was secured in the district schools and the Kewanee high school, and he also attended business college at Burlington, Iowa. Until he had attained his majority he remained at home and then followed his father's example and began teaching school during the winter months,

thus continuing for three years. However, Kewanee attracted him and he came to the city, where he worked in a hardware store for a year. He then entered the employ of the Western Tube Company and was in its office for four years. In 1895 he embarked in the furniture business, by buying the establishment of C. J. Roadstrad, which was conducted under the firm name of Roadstrad & Palmer, and now does business as E. S. Good. Five years later Mr. Palmer took the undertaking end of the business and now is one of the leading undertakers of the county, while Mr. Good assumed charge of the furniture department and carries a full line of fine furniture of all kinds. He also owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres south of Kewanee.

Mr. Good was married March 6, 1901, to Jean Oliver, a daughter of William Oliver, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. Two children have been born to them, namely: Everett Oliver, born May 18, 1904; and Wallace, (Teddy) born May 19, 1908.

Mr. Good is a Mason, a Knight Templar and was secretary of the blue lodge and of the chapter for five years. He has been very active in lodge work and is one of the most popular men in his order. Formerly he held the office of trustee of the Congregational church, of which he is a consistent member, and during the three years he held that office he gave cheerfully of his time to the work of the board.

The furniture house of Mr. Good is conveniently located on Main street, where two floors one hundred and twenty by twenty-one feet, are occupied and every facility is afforded for a proper display of the goods. Strict honesty in business dealings, loyalty to friends and deep love for his family are characteristics that make him not only successful but beloved, and his community could ill afford to lose him.

---

#### ELVIN F. DILENBECK.

Elvin F. Dilenbeck, who until within a few months ago was a farmer on section 23, Edford township, was born in that township, August 22, 1872, and is a son of Myron H. and Sarah C. (Spickler) Dilenbeck, who are residents of Geneseo. He is the second in order of birth in a family of three children, all of whom received good educations. Albert Cortland, the eldest, after completing the course in the common schools, attended the Northwestern Normal, though he did not graduate. He is now a resident of Edford township. Minnie Viola, the youngest, was graduated from the Geneseo high school and then taught for a few years. She is now the wife of Charles Washburn and lives in Laramie, Wyoming.

Like his brother and sister, Elvin F. Dilenbeck received a good education, for after he had completed the course outlined in the schools of the township, he went to the Northwestern Normal, from which he was graduated in the class of 1891. He embarked immediately upon his business career, going first to Ida Grove, Ida county, Iowa, where he obtained a position in the First National Bank as bookkeeper. At the end of eighteen months he was made assistant cashier in

the Castana Savings Bank at Castana, Monona county, Iowa, and while in that city he became acquainted with the woman he subsequently married. In 1894 he returned to Illinois and for two years worked as a renter upon his father's farm in Edford township. In 1896 he bought the place, paying sixty dollars an acre for it, and for thirteen years made it his home. In that period, through his efforts it had been so much improved and had so increased in value that in 1909 he sold it for one hundred and fifty-five dollars an acre. His earnest toil was richly rewarded, and he proved himself skilled in the cultivation of the soil. He still owns a half section in southern Minnesota.

Mr. Dilenbeck had scarcely entered upon man's estate when on the 3d of April, 1893, in Castana, Iowa, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen E. Howe, a daughter of John L. and Araminta B. Howe. When exercising his franchise Mr. Dilenbeck has invariably cast his ballot for the candidates of the republican party, with whose platform he is most in sympathy. He has never had any desire to accept office within the gift of the people, however, though there can be no doubt that he would find ready support were he disposed to seek it. His religious allegiance is given to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which both he and his wife are active.

---

#### ERNEST MANTHE.

Ernest Manthe, who resides on section 23, Wethersfield township, is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, which is kept under the highest state of cultivation. His birth occurred near Berlin, Germany, on the 15th of May, 1865, his parents being Christ and Henrietta (Sepp) Manthe. In 1868 the father brought his family to the United States and a year later took up his abode in Burns township, Henry county, Illinois, where, in association with his brother, he purchased a farm of eighty acres on sections 2 and 3. This place has since remained in his possession and he has there carried on his agricultural interests to the present time, having met with a gratifying and well merited measure of success in his undertakings.

Ernest Manthe, who is the eldest in a family of seven sons and four daughters, obtained his education in the public schools of Burns township and remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age. He then secured employment as a farm hand but at the end of a year purchased a tract of eighty acres in Cornwall township and devoted his energies to its cultivation until 1893. In that year he leased the property and removed to Kewanee, buying a home on Bennison road, now Cambridge street. At that place he was actively engaged in teaming for a year and then gave his attention to the operation of a rented farm in Wethersfield township for a similar period. Subsequently he cultivated a rented tract of land in Kewanee township for one year, on the expiration of which period, in 1896, he returned to his farm in Cornwall township, there carrying on his agricultural interests until he disposed of the place in 1905. He then purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 23, Wethersfield township, and has since brought the property under a high state of cultivation

and improvement. The buildings include a fine modern ten-room residence as well as substantial and commodious barns, and in fact the place is lacking in none of the conveniences and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. Mr. Manthe devotes his attention principally to the raising of corn but also cultivates oats to some extent. He feeds some hogs for the market, though the stock which he raises is mostly for his own use.

On the 27th of August, 1890, in Kewanee township, Mr. Manthe was united in marriage to Miss Adelia Statz, a daughter of Ferderick William Statz, who is now deceased but was formerly actively identified with the agricultural interests of Kewanee township. Mr. and Mrs. Manthe are now the parents of four children, namely: Anna Gertrude, seventeen years of age; Frederick Herbert, a lad of thirteen; and Grace Henrietta and Robert Carl, who are eleven and three years of age respectively.

When exercising his right of franchise Mr. Manthe supports the men and measures of the republican party and is an active worker in its local ranks. For the past four years he has acted as a school director and in this connection has done effective service for the cause of education. His life is in harmony with his professions as a member of the German Lutheran church, the teachings of which he daily exemplifies. The period of his residence in this county now covers four decades and he is widely recognized as one of its prosperous and representative agriculturists as well as respected citizens.

---

### WINFIELD S. CHRISTNER.

Winfield S. Christner, one of the larger agriculturists of Geneseo township, owning three hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 1 and 2, was born on a farm near Indian Head, Salt Lick township, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, September 18, 1854, and is a son of Samuel and Rachel (Berg) Christner. The parents were both of Pennsylvanian nativity, the father having been born in Somerset county, the mother in Fayette county, and were of German and Scotch ancestry. Though reared upon the farm and to the life of a farmer, it is but recently that Mr. Christner has joined the agricultural community of Geneseo township, for he tried other vocations in different parts of the country before he finally settled here. He attended the common schools of his native home and then spent one term at the normal school of Donegal, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, looking forward to a career as a teacher. He changed his mind, however, and learned the carpenter's trade, at which he had worked with his father more or less ever since he was fifteen, and which he followed until twenty-five. At that age he and some business friends started a sawmill in Westmoreland county and conducted it together for about five years, when Mr. Christner decided to come west and try his fortunes in Illinois. He settled in Geneseo, where he opened a bakery and restaurant. It was a disastrous venture, however, for in two years he lost a considerable amount of money, and in the fall of 1888 he returned to Pennsylvania. There for a number of years he followed the carpenter's trade and then in 1901 returned to Illinois, locating on the farm

on which he now lives. For several years he rented land but in 1906 purchased the place being satisfied as to its fertility and the opportunities it afforded for acquiring a comfortable income. The years have proved that he was not mistaken in his estimate. He has remodeled the house, thus making it thoroughly modern, and the land for which he paid seventy dollars an acre, is now worth fully one hundred and seventy-five dollars, and there is every reason to look forward to its increasing in value.

Mr. Christner has been married twice. In his native county, September 20, 1877, he wedded Miss Sarah White, and to them was born a son Reuel, who is now living in Fayette county, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Christner died and June 10, 1884, he married Miss Emma Weimer. She was born in Atkinson township, Henry county, and is a daughter of William and Susan (Heller) Weimer, a sketch of whom appears in another part of this volume. She attended the public schools of her native township and then spent some years in the high school in Geneseo. She met Mr. Christner while on a visit to friends in Pennsylvania. Five children have been born of this second union. Earl, born in Salt Lick township, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, February 4, 1885, received a common-school education and is now at home with his parents. Edith was born in Bullskin township, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, March 10, 1890. Elwyn was also born in Bullskin township, on the 14th of February, 1892, and was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute with the class of 1909. Esther was born in Pennsylvania, June 2, 1898. Ewing, the youngest, was born in Pennsylvania, October 15, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Christner are members of the Brethren church, but there is no organization of that denomination in their locality. Mr. Christner cast his first presidential ballot for Hayes at the election of 1876 and was always a stanch republican until of late years, when he has given his support to the prohibition party. He has served as school director for a number of years, and his influence has always been exerted toward promoting better educational advantages.

---

### FRANCIS OWEN WITHROW.

Francis Owen Withrow, one of the substantial agriculturists of Phenix township, who has been making a specialty of feeding and raising stock, is conveniently located on section 30, where he owns two hundred and fifty-five acres of rich farm land. He and his son together successfully operate four hundred and fifty-five acres. He was born just across the line in Geneseo township, December 15, 1860, being a son of J. M. and Asvilla M. (Allen) Withrow. When he was only six weeks old his father removed into Phenix township, locating on the farm now owned by him. This had been bought a short time before and paid for with corn valued at nine cents per bushel. At that time the farm only consisted of eighty acres, upon which the father built a brick house, the brick being made in Phenix township. When Francis was eleven years old his father bought another eighty acre farm, which was in Hanna township, and our subject lived there with the family until his marriage.

On October 5, 1882, Mr. Withrow married Ella Eusaba Kerr, who was born in Hanna township, a daughter of Thomas W. and Amanda (Henninger) Kerr, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Buying one hundred and twenty acres, the young couple settled upon their farm. This was a portion of the land Mrs. Withrow's maternal grandfather had secured upon coming to Illinois. Here they lived for twelve years, when Mr. Withrow sold and bought his present farm, which is now very valuable. They had two children: Howard Hudson, born April 2, 1885; and Hattie Mildred, born May 26, 1898, who died at the age of five weeks.

Howard H. Withrow is a graduate of high school of the class of 1905, and remained at home until his marriage, on November 27, 1906, to Mabel E. Wilkinson of Munson township, one of his classmates. For two years following his marriage the young man was assistant superintendent at the county infirmary and then returned to the farm, where he is working in conjunction with his father. He bought one hundred and fifteen acres in March, 1908, and has already materially increased its value.

Reared a republican Mr. Withrow voted for Blaine in 1884 and has taken an active part in politics ever since. While living in Hanna township he served as township clerk for four years. In 1900 he was elected supervisor of Phenix township and has held the office continuously since, making a remarkable record, for he has not missed a single meeting. He first served on the committee on township accounts for two years, then on that on roads and bridges, and while a member of it several new bridges were built. Both Mr. and Mrs. Withrow are members of the Methodist church and are active in its work. Fraternally he is a member of Geneseo Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F., filling all of the chairs; and of Geneseo Camp, No. 40, M. W. A. His wife belongs to the Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist church.

Mr. Withrow only received a common country school education and until he was twenty-one years old he worked for his father without remuneration, but he has succeeded in accumulating a desirable property and is regarded as one of the reliable and representative men of his community.

---

#### M. HOWARD MACHESNEY.

M. Howard Machesney is one of the respected and representative citizens of Annawan township, his home being on the southwest quarter of section 17. His financial condition relieves him from the necessity of further active labor, so that he is practically living retired, although he still gives his supervision to the management of his property interests. His birth occurred at the family home on section 29, Annawan township, June 3, 1870, his parents being James and Selinda (Burgett) Machesney. The father was born in Greensburg, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, March 17, 1817, and was a son of Andrew and Mary (Henderson) Machesney. The family is of Irish origin and was founded in America by Mr. and Mrs. William Machesney, the great-grandparents of our subject, who crossed the Atlantic in 1786 and spent their remaining days in



JAMES MACHESNEY



Westmoreland, Pennsylvania, the death of William Machesney there occurring in 1825. Andrew Machesney was a child of only four years at the time of the emigration to the new world, and under the parental roof he spent his boyhood days and was reared to the occupation of farming, which he made his life work. He removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, where he lived for two years, but at the expiration of that period returned to the former state, his death occurring in Greensburg in 1864 when he had reached the age of eighty-two years. His wife survived until January, 1868, and died at the age of seventy-two years. She was a native of Pennsylvania and of Scotch descent.

James Machesney was reared to manhood in Westmoreland county, where he acquired a good common-school education. He came to Illinois in 1854 with his brother, David Machesney, who was a physician, and in 1855 James Machesney opened a drug store in Annawan, where he continued business until 1860. Before coming to Illinois he had worked by the month for two years, and when he started out at the end of that time he had sixty dollars, which he put out at interest. From that time until his death there was never a year in which he did not have money out at interest. He was very careful in making loans, so that he never suffered losses, and in his business management was so successful that when he disposed of the drug store he had a capital of eight thousand dollars. He then began to buy land, his first purchase being one hundred and twenty acres east of Annawan. When favorable opportunity presented he continued to invest in real estate and eventually became the owner of eight hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, all in Annawan township. He was a man of marked enterprise and unabating energy, and his business ability and keen discrimination were evidenced in the splendid success which he achieved. He was married January 30, 1861, to Mrs. Selinda Johnson, nee Burgett, a native of Tippecanoe county, Indiana, and a daughter of Silas and Sarah (Henderson) Burgett, who were natives of Ohio but died in Indiana. Mrs. Machesney came to Illinois with her first husband, and following his death she gave her hand in marriage to James Machesney. They began their domestic life on section 29 Annawan township, Henry county, where they continued to reside throughout their remaining days. They were the parents of five children: Mary Agnes, the wife of Joseph Anderson, a resident of Annawan township; Anna Ardelia, the wife of James Douglas, a resident of Annawan; James Henderson, who married Minnie Booth and lives in Annawan; M. Howard, of this review; and Morgan Burgett, who wedded Nora Batten and lives in Annawan.

The father, James Machesney, was a republican in politics after the organization of that party. His first presidential vote was cast for Zachary Taylor. He and his wife were members of the United Brethren church at Fairview, in Annawan township. His death occurred on the old home farm March 13, 1903, while his widow passed away in the succeeding fall and was laid to rest by his side in the Fairview cemetery. He was truly a self-made man, who worked his way steadily upward by his energy and diligence, allowing no obstacle nor difficulty to bar his path if it could be overcome by honest and persistent effort.

M. Howard Machesney spent his boyhood days on the home farm, the duties and labors of the fields early becoming familiar to him as he assisted in their development through the periods of vacation, while through the school year he

pursued his education in the district school. Having arrived at years of maturity he sought a helpmate for life's journey, being married on the 28th of December, 1893, in Annawan township, to Miss Dencie Barton, who was born in Burns township and is a daughter of George and Jane Barton. Two children graced this union: James, who was born in Annawan township, July 3, 1896, and Lois, born February 11, 1899.

Mr. Machesney carried on farming in connection with his father until the latter's death. He afterward inherited one hundred and seventy-six acres of the estate and now has one hundred and eighty-six acres of very valuable and productive land, which returns to him a gratifying and substantial annual income. In 1908 he erected upon his farm a beautiful modern residence, thirty-two by thirty-two feet, two stories in height with basement. It is supplied with steam heat, a carbide system of lighting, hot and cold water, with automatic pressure. In fact, none of the equipment of a model home is lacking, and it is one of the most convenient, comfortable and attractive residences in Annawan township—a fitting abode for one whose well spent life entitles him to the high regard of his fellow citizens in this community. He votes with the republican party but never seeks office as a reward for party fealty. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge at Annawan and the Modern Woodmen camp, while his wife is a member of the United Brethren church at Fairview. They occupy a prominent position in social circles, and their home is the abode of a warm-hearted and generous hospitality which is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

---

#### GEORGE E. NOONAN.

One of the progressive representatives of the agricultural interests of Osco township, is George E. Noonan, who was born in this township, February 13, 1857, and is a son of James and Jane (Leibee) Noonan. The former was born in Woodford, County Galway, Ireland, March 22, 1836, and as his parents died when he was very young he had early to make his own way in the world. At the age of fourteen he started for America and after crossing the Atlantic he made his way to Ohio, where he lived for a number of years. In 1856, in Middletown, that state, he was married and straightway set out for Osco township, Henry county, Illinois, where his wife's father, George Leibee, had located previously. Here the latter bought a large tract of land and erected buildings preparatory to moving his family to that township, so that Mr. Noonan joined the party which was ready to go to the new home when he married. After their arrival here, Mr. Leibee gave his daughter a tract of eighty acres. It was unimproved at the time, but the young couple immediately made it their place of residence, which it remained as long as Mr. Noonan was engaged in active farming. He was successful in his agricultural pursuits, however, and with the passage of years was able to add eighty acres to the original grant of land, although forty acres has been sold, so that the heritage bequeathed to his children was one hundred and twenty acres. In 1893 Mr. Noonan removed to Geneseo, where he lived in retirement for about fifteen years, his death occurring there May 11,



MRS. JAMES MACHESNEY



1908. Of his two children George E. is the elder. The daughter, Eva, lives with her mother in Geneseo. During his life Mr. Noonan was a staunch adherent of the democratic party and supported the Methodist Episcopal church at Osco. His widow was born in Middletown, Ohio, where she grew to womanhood and was married.

George E. Noonan spent his boyhood upon the home farm, attending the public schools of his locality, from which he derived substantial training for the responsibilities of life. He worked for his father until he was about twenty-four years of age, when he married and assumed the care of part of his father's property. This he has tilled continuously since. The farm is a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, lying on section 10, Osco township.

In Rock Island, Illinois, May 30, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Noonan and Miss Fanny Campbell, of Geneseo. She was born in Waukegan Illinois, February 3, 1860, her parents being Leonard C. and Sarah L. (Wright) Campbell. Her father was a native of Malone, Franklin county, New York, where he was born October 6, 1816. He grew to manhood in the state of his birth and there married, living for a time in Ogdensburg, where he was in partnership with William J. Averell, the father-in-law of E. H. Harriman, the late railroad king. In 1856 he came to Illinois, locating in Waukegan though he was in business in Chicago, being engaged in the transportation and commission business until 1859, when he accepted a position with the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad as station agent at Geneseo, to which city he moved his family the following year. After six years' work there he was sent by his employers to Joliet to adjust the financial affairs of the company, which had gotten into a bad tangle. He became next the cashier and distributing agent for the Chicago Stockyards Company, while the yards were in process of construction, and it is said that more than a million dollars passed through his hands. During the years he spent in Joliet and Chicago his family remained in Geneseo, to which he returned when he completed his work in those cities. He was straightway chosen police magistrate of the town and when after nine years' incumbency of the office, he resigned he was elected justice of the peace, a position he held continuously until his death, which occurred March 4, 1891. He also served as clerk of the city. It is said that during his lifetime he had no equal as a bookkeeper, besides being frequently called upon to give instruction in the keeping of books, his services were in constant requisition in straightening out the work of others less competent than he. His wife was born in Ogdensburg, New York, December 29, 1818. She received a good education and taught school for a few years before her marriage. Three children were born to her and her husband, the two oldest in the east and the youngest, Mrs. Noonan, after the couple came to Illinois. Leonard W., the older son, is married and lives in Chicago. He has devoted the greater part of his life to the railroad business. James Covington, the other son, died unmarried. During the progress of the Civil war, although he was but a mere boy, he was determined to enlist as a drummer. His father tried to dissuade him but seeing that his heart was set upon a soldier's life, he secured a place for him as an aide-de-camp to a friend and the boy was enrolled, February 29, 1864, as a member of Company H, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until July 25, 1865. His later life

was spent in the west as a railroad man and then as a prospector, but he died at the Soldiers' Home, in Quincy, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Noonan have one child, Edwin Campbell, who was born on the home farm in Osco township, September 7, 1883. He received a common school education and after attaining manhood wedded Miss Bertha Swanson. They are now the parents of a daughter Mildred. Mrs. George Noonan attended the high school in Geneseo, and for a few years before her marriage, when she was but eighteen, engaged in teaching. Politically, Mr. Noonan gives his influence to the democratic party.

Successful and influential, he is one of the representative citizens of his township, where he enjoys the distinction of having been the first to purchase an automobile. He secured his first one July 12, 1906, and now derives great pleasure in running his second machine.

---

#### WILLIS E. GOOD.

Many lines of business activity are represented in Kewanee, Illinois, for the city is located in the midst of a rich farming community that looks to it as a source of supply. Therefore the active business men here find employment for their money and abilities in ministering to the needs of their customers, and long acquaintance with the several lines makes them able to meet the requirements with good stocks and reasonable prices. Willis E. Good is one of the men thus representative of the progressive spirit of the age.

He was born on the township line between Kewanee and Wethersfield, April 11, 1866. His parents, Samuel W. and Mary A. (Northrop) Good, were farming people, who came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1851, from Ohio. For a number of years they had lived in Zanesville and had been engaged in farming. The death of the father occurred September 1, 1885, after a useful life, spent in striving to provide for his family and to better his community. During his residence in Henry county he served faithfully as school director and road commissioner. His widow survived him until February 27, 1897, when she joined him in the other world.

Willis E. Good was reared on a farm and remained there until 1900, when he turned toward another line of business. Coming to Kewanee, he purchased a hardware store under the title of Good & Dana, L. L. Dana being his partner. This association continued until 1905, when Mr. Good bought Mr. Dana's interest, and two years later removed to his present location in the Red Men building on Main street, where he has ample room for his large stock. He conducts a first-class hardware store and carries a full stock of his class of goods. Owing to his excellent connections he is able to offer especially desirable inducements to his customers, both as to quality and price.

On March 15, 1893, occurred the marriage of Mr. Good and Lottie Dana, of Kewanee, who was born in Bureau county. They are the parents of six children, as follows: Alice, Helen, Mollie, Dana, Lawrence and Eleanor, all at home. Mr. Good served acceptably as school director in his township before

removing to Kewanee, and has always been interested in educational matters. He belongs to the Royal Arcanum, the Mystic Workers and the Improved Order of Red Men, and in his fraternal relations as well as his business and home connections, he has proven himself a man worthy of all trust and one who will succeed in anything he undertakes.

---

### JOHN PRITCHARD.

John Pritchard, a farmer and stockman of Geneseo township, was born in Alba township, this county, November 30, 1874. His parents, Henry and Eliza (Irvine) Pritchard, were both natives of Scotland. The father came to America when of mature age and settled in Cornwall township, this county, later moving to Alba township. There he bought a tract of land, a part of which he had to break, and engaged in farming. His wife came to the United States when a young woman, with her parents, who settled in Alba township, where they engaged in agriculture and where she met her husband. Through her marriage she became the mother of five children, all of whom grew to maturity. Sarah, the eldest, married Robert Gilbreath and died at What Cheer, Iowa. They had no children. Henry married Miss Alice Bailey and passed away, leaving a son. John, the third of the family, is the subject of this review. Mary lives in Alba township, on the home place. William married Miss Mattie Baker. They live at Prophetstown, Illinois, and have two sons. The mother died when her fifth child was about three years old, and the father subsequently married Miss Catherine Moore, by whom he had three sons born: Hugh, who died unmarried; Samuel, and Walter, who live in Alba. Although a poor man when he came to this country Henry Pritchard has accumulated a comfortable fortune through hard work and good management.

John Pritchard was reared at home and received a fairly good education in the common schools of his native township. He early began work on the farm, giving his father the benefit of his labor in his youth, but when he became of age receiving from him compensation for his days' labor. When he was twenty-four years old he began life for himself, renting eighty acres from his father and boarding with his uncle. For four years he worked diligently and in 1901 was able to purchase two hundred acres in Ainsworth, Iowa, to which he removed. He was not satisfied with his investment, however, and after two years spent there returned to Geneseo. He lived in the town for one year and then bought the farm on which he now resides. It consists of eighty acres, for which he paid one hundred and thirty dollars an acre, but he has added many improvements in the five years it has been his home, so that its value is much increased.

On the 29th of March, 1899, Mr. Pritchard was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth A. Gilbreath, a daughter of James and Sarah Jane (Morrison) Gilbreath. She was a native of Alba township, where she received a good common school education and where she grew to womanhood. Four children bless this union: Bernice Lucile, born in Geneseo township; Gilbert James, born in Ains-

worth, Iowa; Henry, born in the city of Geneseo; and Helen Elizabeth, born on the home farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard are devout members of the Congregational church. Politically he affiliates with the republican party, but he is not an office seeker and has taken little part in public affairs. He is interested, however, in the welfare of his fellow members of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

### M. MAURY NASH.

M. Maury Nash, one of the important stockmen of Osco township, was born September 21, 1847, in what was then known as Coalsmouth, West Virginia. His parents, Francis Burdette and Elizabeth (Maury) Nash, removed to Kentucky during his boyhood and toward the close of the Civil war came to Illinois, where the father, who was an Episcopalian clergyman, obtained as charges the church at Geneseo and the little churches in Osco township and Cambridge. He had previously served as one of the early ministers to the little congregation at Tiskilwa.

In his boyhood days Mr. Nash was right in the heart of the fighting carried on in Kentucky in connection with the war of the Rebellion. He remembers particularly the havoc wrought by Morgan's men, one of his favorite stories being how after the raid at Augusta, he ran around a corner of one of the streets of the town and there found a surgeon, who asked him if he had grit enough to wash his knives for him. To be sure he did have the courage, and what is more he continued through that day to render the older man excellent aid.

When his family came to Illinois M. Maury Nash found employment on a farm in Stark county, where he worked for about seven years, having in that time attained to the position of foreman. He then went to Atchison county, Missouri, where he rented land and where in three years he lost all that he had saved. Thereupon he went to Nebraska, finding work by the month, and later returned to Missouri. By industry and economy in a few years he had saved enough to enable him to buy eighty acres near Greenfield, Iowa. On that farm he made many improvements and lived until the railroads were built to that region and obliged him to sell. Next he and a brother bought two sections of land near Nashua, Minnesota, in Red river valley, on which they located. The railroad was built through that farm also, and a station, which was named after the Nash brothers, was put up on their land.

In 1879, while on a visit to his father in Cambridge, Illinois, he met and wedded his wife and took her to his Minnesota home. By a strange coincidence the couple had been there but a day when the worst blizzard that had ever been known in that locality came upon them. For three days the snow fell and blew, piling high about the dwellings so that exit was impossible, thus providing the bride of a warmer clime with a memory of the Red river valley that will not be soon forgotten. On account of an affliction of the eyes, Mr. Nash was compelled to leave Minnesota and return to Illinois, where he spent one year in a

hospital and eventually lost one organ of vision. He then located for the second time in Greenfield, Iowa, where he had purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, and then in 1889 came to Illinois, locating in Osco township, Henry county. Here he bought his present place, paying fifty-five dollars an acre, and here he has since lived, making many improvements upon the land and greatly increasing its value. It is situated on section 35 and is one hundred and sixty acres in extent, but in addition to it Mr. Nash owns eighty acres in Clover township, this county. Though following general farming, Mr. Nash has largely engaged in the stock business, shipping each year a number of carloads of cattle to the important markets.

On the 3d of October, 1880, in Osco township, Mr. Nash and Miss Amelia Smith were made man and wife. Quite a romance was culminated in their wedding, for theirs was a case of love at first sight. In 1879, when Mr. Nash had returned to Illinois to visit his father, he met Miss Smith, was immediately aware of her charms and within a week had determined that he would marry her. She, however, professed inability to make up her mind, and it was only after a year's persistent urging that she consented to become Mrs. Nash. She is a native of Osco township and was graduated from the Cambridge high school with the class of 1877. Her own education completed, she engaged in the instruction of others and was a teacher in the county schools when Mr. Nash became acquainted with her. Her parents were Jared H. and Jane Amelia (Welton) Smith, who were connected with the pioneer history of this county. Jared H. Smith was born in Harwinton, Connecticut, 1827, and was a son of Anson and Abigail (Holt) Smith. In 1853 he came to Illinois, stopping first at Tiskilwa, which was the end of the railroad at that time. He then went to Peoria county, where he visited with the Weltons, and in the fall of that year they came with him to Osco township to see Willis Hinman, who had previously located here. Here Mr. Smith bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22 and then returned to his Connecticut home to wed a former schoolmate, Amelia Welton, a sister of the friends he had visited in Peoria county. On the 1st of October, 1854, in Connecticut, Mr. Smith and Miss Welton were married and they set out straightway for their new home. Here he prospered in his undertakings, soon became the owner of about two sections of land and a man prominent in township affairs. His religious affiliations were with the Episcopal church and he was one of the founders of Grace church in which he was many years junior warden and then senior warden until his death. Mrs. Nash was the eldest of the three children born to him by his first wife, the others being Anson Welton who died at the age of four years, and Myra J., who married Willard West, of Ainsley, Nebraska. Mrs. Smith died in Osco, February, 1863, and Mr. Smith subsequently married Miss Mary Knowles, of Lynn township. Of the second marriage there were six children: Henry Anson, who married Miss Delia Atwood; Anna, who became the wife of William Patterson; Jared Heber and George Rodney, twins, who live in Osco township; Charles, who lives on the home farm in Osco township; and Mary Ethel, who makes her home with Charles.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nash: Myra Louise, the eldest, was born in Red river valley, Minnesota; Jared Burdette, born near

Greenfield, Iowa, married Miss Estella Gibson and now lives in Dighton, Michigan; Anson Maury, born in Iowa, married Miss Margaret Hendricks and lives with his father; Lawrence, born in Iowa, died at the age of four and a half years; Mary Elizabeth was born on the home farm, as was also Jane Amelia, the sixth child; Francis Burdette, the youngest, was also born in Illinois.

Although of Kentucky birth, Mr. Nash is a strong republican and dates his political choice from an incident in his early years, when his father, a man of northern nativity, took him to see a sale of slaves. The horror of the scene remained a constant memory, and despite the fact that his mother was descended from a long line of slaveholders, he became a strong abolitionist and a republican when the slave question assumed national importance. Reared in the Episcopalian faith, he and his wife are members of Grace church, in which he has been senior warden for a number of years. Industrious and not afraid of hard work, Mr. Nash has attained to a substantial position in the community. He had discouragements in his early years but they only brought out the stronger character of the man and pointed the way to his ultimate success.

---

#### HUGH HILL.

Hugh Hill, senior member of the drug firm of Hill & King, is one of the most prominent and progressive men of Kewanee, and his intimate connection with his house has made him thoroughly conversant with the needs of his patrons and enables him to conserve their best interests. Not only is he active in business circles, but he has also been prominent in social life and to him and his efforts Kewanee owes many of its modern ideas. Mr. Hill was born in Willoughby, Ohio, November 4, 1862, a son of William and Maria Hill. The father came to Kewanee in 1864 and continued farming for some years in that locality, but later bought a farm near Tiskilwa, moved to it and made it his home until his death when only forty-two years of age. About 1870 his widow returned to Kewanee to give her son the advantage of an education here.

Hugh Hill was always ambitious and as soon as old enough began clerking in the drug store of George A. Anthony and continued there for seventeen years. In November, 1899, he and Allen King formed the firm of Hill & King, and this profitable and pleasant association still continues. The two are excellent druggists and control a large trade, which has been built up by close attention to business and reliable methods.

Mr. Hill has been very prominent in political matters in Kewanee and has served as village clerk for seven years, as township clerk for the same length of time, and in 1909 he was elected supervisor for a term of two years. His affiliations have always been with the republican party. Mr. Hill was one of the originators of the Kewanee Baseball Association, was its first president and manager and held the latter office for four years, and is still a director in the association. His interest in baseball has never wavered and he takes great pride in the local nine and its triumphs. Fraternally he is an Elk, a Mason, Knight

of Pythias, an Eagle and Red Man, and belongs to the Kewanee Club. Wherever he goes he makes friends and is deservedly popular.

In 1882, Mr. Hill was married to Ida Halline, of Kewanee, and they have become the parents of five children, as follows: Blanch, who is a stenographer; Bertha, a bookkeeper; Fred L., who is connected with his father in the drug business; and Belden and Bernard, who are students.

Mr. Hill is a thorough business man and a reliable druggist. In his dealings with his fellow citizens he is frank and open and succeeds in his efforts to please both in his store and socially. He is a man of strict integrity, is broad-minded and believes in encouraging a love of sports and outdoor life generally.

---

### CHARLES MAGEE.

As the years pass by and many who were numbered among the Civil war veterans have responded to the last roll call, it is fitting that those who survive should be honored for the valiant service which they rendered to the country in the darkest hour in her history. To this number belongs Charles Magee, whose home is in Henry county, Illinois, where he is the owner of one hundred acres in Geneseo township and one hundred and sixty-six acres in Osco township, where he is conducting a stock farm, being engaged in the breeding of pure blooded polled Angus cattle, which he also feeds for the market. A native of the Prairie state, he was born in Hollis township, Peoria county, January 18, 1844, a son of John and Maria (Miskimmins) Magee, whose family numbered eight children. A brother of our subject, Thomas Magee, was a surgeon of the Civil war, having been a practicing physician previous to that time. The father died in 1870 on the home farm in Osco township, and the mother later made her home in Geneseo, where she passed away in 1902, having reached her eighty-ninth year.

Charles Magee was ten years of age when his parents removed to Illinois from Hollis township, Peoria county, to Trivola township, that county, where he grew to manhood, having but a limited opportunity for acquiring an education. However, he studied diligently, mastering the branches of English learning, and, when not busy with his text-books, gave his time and attention to the work of the fields.

At the outbreak of the Civil war, having watched with interest the threatening attitude of the south, his patriotic longing to defend the Union overcame all other considerations and, though but a boy of eighteen years, he enlisted in Company D, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, August 27, 1862. At Perryville, Kentucky, October 7, he was under fire and during the winter of 1862-3 he was assigned on guard duty at Nashville. Later he participated in the battles of Chickamauga, the siege of Chattanooga and Missouri Ridge. Then followed the Atlanta campaign and later the memorable march to the sea under General Sherman, whom he afterward followed to Washington, taking part in the grand review at the close of the war. He was mustered out June 23, 1865, having missed but two roll calls during the entire service.

When the war was over Mr. Magee, with a most creditable military record, returned to his father's home in Osco township, Henry County. For a few years thereafter they carried on the work in partnership but later Charles Magee rented the farm and since then has made this place his home. Several years before the father had purchased the one hundred and sixty-six acre farm for fifty-five hundred dollars, and in 1880 the son bought the one hundred acres in Geneseo township for six thousand dollars, and while they were in partnership together they erected all the buildings upon the place, purchased the machinery used and added all the modern conveniences and accessories with which to carry on the work according to the most advanced methods. In 1882 Charles Magee put in a silo, which was the first in the township, and when that one wore out, after being without one for two years, in 1907 put in a new one.

Having been twice united in marriage, his first union was celebrated September 27, 1870, the lady of his choice being Miss Nellie Paine, who passed away in 1882, leaving no children. On February 20, 1884, Mr. Magee wedded Miss Mary F. Duff, a daughter of George and Mary (Cyphers) Duff, and unto this union has been born two children. Elsie is a graduate of the Geneseo high school and later took a course in domestic science in the University of Chicago, since which time she has been engaged in teaching. Elon, also a graduate of the Geneseo high school, is now pursuing a course of study in the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Mr. Magee has always been a republican in his political faith, having cast his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant in 1868, but has never sought nor desired political preferment as a reward for party fealty. He holds a membership in Jenkins Post, G. A. R., and his life history is a fair record of responsibilities wisely carried, opportunities turned to the best account, wide-reaching influence used wholly for good and a public spirited citizenship manifest all through the succeeding years since his service to his country during the Civil war.

---

### IRA W. WITHROW.

Ira W. Withrow, who has but recently joined the agriculturists of Edford township, owns one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 12, where he will carry on general farming. He was born in Phenix township, this county, August 1, 1862, and is a son of J. W. and Arvilla M. (Allen) Withrow, a sketch of whose lives appears elsewhere in this volume. Until he was nine years of age he lived in the township of his birth and then with his parents removed to Hanna township, where he grew to manhood. He received his early education in the district schools and later enjoyed two winters' instruction under Professor Comstock at Colona. At the age of twenty-one he started out in life for himself as a farmer. For about two years he worked upon his father's farm in Hanna township, and then purchased a farm in that township, whereon he resided until 1892, when he removed to Geneseo. After a year's residence in the city he returned to Hanna township, where he remained four years. Then he sold the one hundred and thirty acres he owned there and bought an interest in an elevator in

Geneseo, where for three years he carried on a grain and coal business. When an opportune occasion arose he disposed of that and engaged in the grocery business, but only for a short time, for he returned to farming and for five years cultivated his father's place in Hanna township. In 1909 he bought his present home in Edford township and intends making it a profitable investment.

In Hanna township, December 17, 1884, Mr. Withrow was united in marriage to Miss Lucina Fuller. She was born in that township, to which her parents, Charles W. and Catherine (Brady) Fuller, came in the early years of its settlement. Their former home was in New York state. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Withrow. Roy W., born in Hanna township, January 10, 1887, was graduated from the Geneseo high school, and now, after having taught for two years, is a student at Ann Arbor, where he pursued a course in literature. Hazel, born in Hanna township, January 1, 1891, was graduated from the Geneseo high school with the class of 1909. Claude, the youngest, was born in Hanna township, October 21, 1895.

The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Withrow has served as class leader and as superintendent and teacher in the Sunday school. In his political views he is a republican and is ever punctilious in his attendance at the polls at election times. Although he has never been a candidate for public office for three years he acted as assessor in Hanna township and for many years served as justice of the peace.

---

#### NATHANIEL W. TIBBETTS.

Nathaniel W. Tibbetts has been in the public service for many years and is efficient as a statesman and as private citizen, and during the years he was an active and useful legislator he served his people by studying their needs and his duty toward them, and thus rendered his state inestimable service. He has also been successful in his business ventures and is associated with some of the substantial concerns of Kewanee.

He was born in Neponset township, Bureau county, Illinois, November 15, 1845, a son of James P. and Julia A. (Sayles) Tibbetts. His father was born in Maine and on coming west traveled by boat on the lakes and rivers to Rock Island, Illinois, then across the country to Wethersfield, Henry county, whence he removed in 1843 to Neponset township, Bureau county, where he was the fourth settler. There he bought government land and developed a fine farm and became one of the leading men of his community, living to the advanced age of nine-thirty years. He had lost his wife many years before when she was but forty-nine years old.

The boyhood days of Nathaniel W. Tibbetts were spent upon the raw prairie farm and he pursued his education in a log school house. Until he reached his majority he remained with his father and while helping him learned the best methods of farming and raising stock. When he was twenty-one he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, and after improving it sold at a profit and then bought more land until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres. He laid

out an addition to Kewanee, known as Tibbetts addition, comprising thirty acres, in 1890. These lots have all been sold and the suburb is largely built up. Mr. Tibbetts possesses great executive ability and whatever he undertakes he carries through rapidly and effectively. He is president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, of Kewanee, and is vice president of the Union National Bank, and his association with these companies has added to their solidity and business and financial standing.

In 1868 Mr. Tibbetts married Miss Mary R. Willey, a native of Maine and a daughter of Henry Willey, a farmer. Mr. Tibbetts has always been prominent politically and has held a number of township offices, serving as assessor from 1881 to 1891, was supervisor for fourteen years and school trustee for six years. In 1902 he was elected from the thirty-seventh district on the republican ticket a member of the general assembly and served two terms. His most important work was the introduction and passage of the bill which authorized the township to levy for a fund to purchase a site and erect the present beautiful library building which is a credit to Henry county. He introduced the bill and had it put through without a dissenting vote. It was a magnificent piece of work and credit is due to him in no small degree for what has been accomplished through it.

Fraternally Mr. Tibbetts has been quite active, belonging to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and socially he is a member of the Kewanee Club. He has made a splendid record as a legislator and business man, and his life is without a blemish of any kind. An honest man, a faithful and able public servant, he presents in his life an example for ambitious young men to emulate.

---

#### ALBERT C. DILENBECK.

One of Edford township's native sons who has attained to a position of prosperity is Albert C. Dilenbeck, who owns two hundred acres of fine land on section 14, where he follows general farming and raises cattle of good breed for the market. He was born March 7, 1865, and is a son of Myron H. and Sarah C. (Spickler) Dilenbeck, who are now residents of Geneseo.

Albert C. Dilenbeck grew to manhood in the locality in which he was born and he lived for a few years with his parents in Geneseo. After completing the course prescribed by the public schools he entered the Northwestern Normal of Geneseo, and then after finishing his education returned home and worked for his father. At the age of twenty-three years he married and, leaving his father's employ, rented a tract of land from him and commenced farming. At the end of about six years of renting he was able to buy his present farm, for which he paid forty-five dollars an acre. When he removed to it in the fall of 1894 it was an unimproved tract with a poor house as its only building. This he has rebuilt and has besides put up a number of other buildings wholly modern in their construction. He has also brought the fields to a high state of cultivation in the fifteen years they have been under his care.

On the 3d of May, 1888, Mr. Dilenbeck and Miss Nannie E. Spickler were united in marriage. Mrs. Dilenbeck was born and reared in Taylor Ridge, Rock Island county, and is a daughter of John and Nancy (Walker) Spickler. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dilenbeck, but Mildred C. died at the age of ten months. Those living are: Glenn Myron, John Leland and Horace Cortland.

In political matters Mr. Dilenbeck gives his support to the republican party with whose platform he is in most accord. He has never been a politician in the sense of being an office seeker, although for several terms he has rendered the citizens of his township valuable service as a member of the board of education. With his wife and the other members of his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church in Geneseo and is not only regular in his attendance at its religious services, but by his daily life gives evidence that its teachings are put to practical use. A hard working man and a good citizen, he has won from his labors more than a handsome competence and has gained the good will and respect of his neighbors by the strong traits of his character.

---

### FRANK P. LADD.

The reverent affection felt for one who has passed away from this earth is best expressed outwardly by a handsome monument to mark the place where all that is mortal of the lost one is laid to rest. Some of the stones thus put up are works of art, executed by men who have given their lives to the business, and who express in their finished product the result of artistic perception and careful training. The best known dealer in monuments in Henry county is Frank P. Ladd, of Kewanee. He was born one mile east of Kewanee, July 19, 1876, and although still in the very prime of life has already attained a high position in his special line of business. He is a son of John and Caroline Ladd, farming people.

Frank P. Ladd was educated in the schools of his neighborhood and worked upon his father's farm until he was seventeen, but he was ambitious and not content to follow in his father's footsteps, and so he began learning the monumental business in all its branches, and for four years after he had learned it thoroughly he worked for others, but in 1898 he embarked in business with William Bates at Galva under the firm name of Bates & Ladd. This connection continued until 1899, when he returned to Kewanee and established his present business. Because of the excellent quality of his work, he has built up a very extensive trade which extends over Bureau and Stark, as well as Henry, counties and he is the largest monumental worker in Henry county.

On June 28, 1899, Mr. Ladd married Carrie A. Nobiling of Kewanee, a daughter of Otto and Carrie Nobiling. Her father is a painter and decorator, whose work is well known in Kewanee. Mr. and Mrs. Ladd are the parents of two children, namely: Willis Otto and Frances Carrie.

Mr. Ladd takes a deep interest in his work and gives his business his personal supervision. Some of his most exclusive designs are his own and display a

high degree of artistic merit and indicate that if he had turned his attention into another avenue of artistic endeavor he might have made himself famous as a sculptor. Social by nature, he finds pleasure in his membership in the Modern Woodmen of America and the Improved Order of Red Men.

---

### ALLEN KING.

The better class of druggists everywhere are men of scientific attainments and high integrity who devote their lives to the welfare of their fellowmen in supplying the best of remedies and purest medicinal agents of known value in accordance with physicians' prescriptions and scientific formula. The conscientious druggist can always be trusted and because of his responsible position in the community enjoys a well earned popularity. Allen King, of the old established house of Hill & King of Kewanee, is one of the most reliable druggists of Henry county and with his partner controls a very desirable trade. He was born in Stark county, Illinois, April 8, 1863, a son of Robert W. and Fannie (Lawrence) King. The father was a physician, whose death occurred in 1906, and the mother died in 1886.

After attending the public schools of his neighborhood and making the most of his opportunities, Mr. King worked on his father's farm for a few years, and then, in 1883, began clerking in a drug store at Toulon and continued there five years, thus gaining a valuable insight into the business. He then went to Peoria, where he worked for two years in the same line, and at the expiration of that time he went to Canton, Ohio, where he spent a year. His next location was at Elmwood, Illinois, but after three years he came to Kewanee and entered the drug store of Grant McPherson and clerked for five years. In 1899 he and Hugh Hill formed their present business association and the firm is widely known as Hill & King.

On the 31st of March, 1904, Mr. King married Miss Katherine Steiner of Dubuque, Iowa. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the Mystic Workers and the Kewanee Club and is deservedly popular in all. He is a very conscientious druggist and the reputation enjoyed by the firm is well merited for both partners are first-class pharmacists and have connections with wholesale houses that make it possible for them to handle a very fine assortment of goods outside of drugs, and the store is one of the most popular in this part of the county.

---

### HORACE M. WILLSIE.

Horace M. Willsie, a farmer and stockman of Oxford township, was born in Galesburg, Illinois, May 1, 1859, and is a son of Horace H. and Betsey Ambrosia (Nichols) Willsie. The father was born in Henningford, Canada, January 27, 1827, and at the age of fourteen years started to make his own way

in the world. He learned the trade of a tanner, which he followed until 1853, when he decided to come to the states. The following year he arrived in Galesburg and almost immediately occupied a prominent place in affairs there, for he was made deputy marshal and constable, positions he held for sixteen years, during four years of which period he was marshal of the city. In July, 1862, he recruited a company for service in the Union army during the Civil war and as captain took it to the front. The next year, however, he was compelled to resign his commission owing to ill health. He thereupon enlisted a second time, to make up the quota of the county, and as lieutenant of the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry he took his soldiers to the scene of activity. On the occasion of his third enlistment in February, 1865, he filled the quota from Knox county, and went to the field as colonel of the One Hundred and Forty-eighth Illinois Volunteers. He was one of the finest drill masters of the army, and, while he permitted nothing to interfere with the performance of duty, he was always concerned for his men and manifested an interest in their welfare. After the close of the war Mr. Willsie returned to his Galesburg home, where he filled many offices of trust and responsibility for a number of years and where he engaged in the livery business and in the buying and selling of horses, of which he was accounted a very good judge. A memory, wonderful in its capacity and in its accuracy, was one of the elements of his success in his own private affairs and as a servant of the people. When he died, June 17, 1906, he was laid to rest in Hope cemetery at Galesburg. His wife, however, still survives. She was Miss Betsey A. Nichols in the days of her maidenhood and was united in marriage to Mr. Willsie June 5, 1855. Four sons and one daughter were born to them: Wilbur F., of Galesburg; Horace M., of this sketch; Alfred N., who is district superintendent of the Hannibal & St. Joseph division of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, having risen to that responsible position from one at which he earned fifteen dollars a month; John, of Galesburg; and Daisy, who is the wife of Edward Culp, of Irvington, New Jersey.

Horace M. Willsie received his education in the public schools of Galesburg and worked with his father in the livery business and in the handling of his horses. In 1880 he began firing on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, but as the work was too heavy for him he was transferred to the storehouse of the company at Galesburg. There he remained for nineteen years, at the end of which period he took up farming. It was in 1902 that he located on his present farm in Oxford township, Henry county. It consists of three hundred and twenty acres, all under good cultivation, on which besides general farming he has engaged extensively in the stock business, giving his attention especially to the breeding of thoroughbred horses and fine Poland China hogs. His stock is among the finest raised in this county, and he himself is accounted a judge of such discrimination that his services are eagerly sought after and his decisions as arbitrator are held in high regard.

On the 14th of November, 1887, Mr. Willsie wedded Miss Fannie M. Clay, a daughter of William L. and Anna M. (Johnson) Clay. The father was a son of John L. Clay, who was descended from one of three brothers who came from England in the seventeenth century. One of them settled in Massachusetts, an-

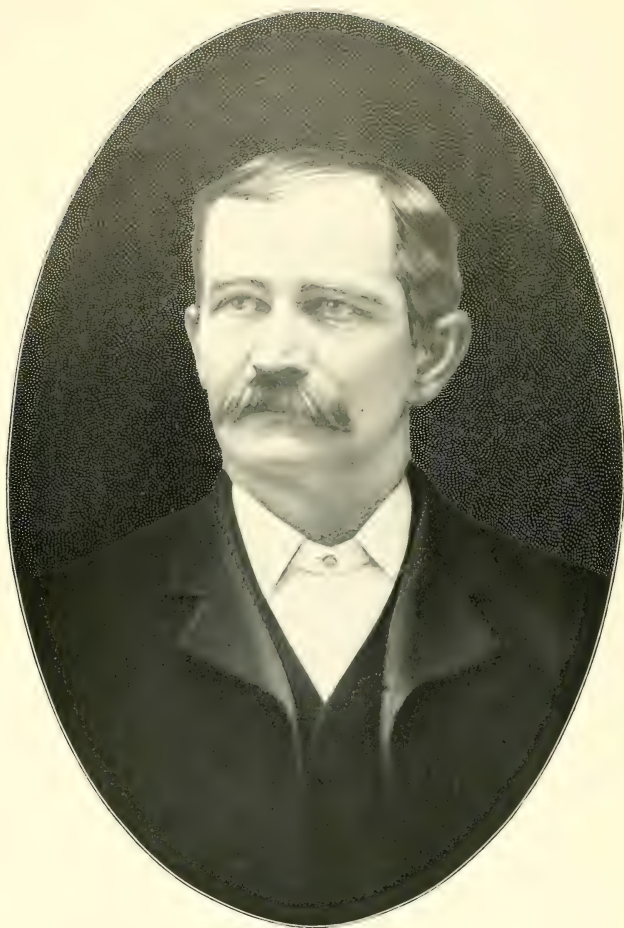
other in Virginia, and the third in North Carolina. John L. Clay was one of the family of the first mentioned and came to Knox county, Illinois, in 1837. He assisted in building the first house erected in the city of Galesburg, where in 1840 he bought property and became a resident. His son, William L. Clay, was born in Chester, Windsor county, Vermont, August 29, 1831. Until 1854 he remained with his father and then bought half a section of raw prairie land in Oxford township, on which he followed agricultural pursuits until his death in 1901. He was twice married. He wedded, November 22, 1854, Miss Harriett A. Davison, who was born in Olin, Iowa, but was reared in Knox county, Illinois, whither her parents came as early pioneers. She died in February, 1868, leaving two children: Seth H., and Mary L., who is now Mrs. E. J. Richards. For his second wife Mr. Clay married Miss Anna M. Johnson, who was born in Sweden but was reared in Henry county. To this union three children were born: Fannie M., now Mrs. Willsie; Warren L., of Campbird, Colorado; and Eugenia M., the wife of Frank Welch. Mrs. Anna Clay is still living.

To Mr. and Mrs. Willsie have been born two children: Gracie E., who was graduated from the Woodhull high school with the class of 1908; and Roy C., who is a student of that institution. The family are members of the Presbyterian church and are active in its work and in the Sunday school. Politically Mr. Willsie affiliates with the republican party and has been conspicuous in local affairs, for in 1906 he was elected a member of the county board of supervisors and was urged, at the expiration of his two years term, to accept reelection. This he steadily refused to do, although during his incumbency he had been put upon the important committee delegated to audit and settle the county's accounts. He has for a number of years been a member of the local school board and has always been interested in educational matters. Public spirited, he has ever urged all improvements which would better the condition of the township and the welfare of its citizens. This quality, combined with the reputation he has made for himself in his own private concerns, has secured for him the high esteem of the members of his community.

---

#### CHARLES BAUM.

For more than three score years, Charles Baum has been a resident of Colona township, and during the greater part of that period his efforts have been devoted to the tilling of the soil. His labors have not been without large rewards either, for he is accounted one of the substantial agriculturists of his locality, and he enjoys the equally enviable reputation of being a man of high character and sterling integrity. A native of the state of New York, he was born in Jefferson county, February 22, 1839, a son of John J. and Marie (Petrie) Baum. They were also born in that county and there were united in wedlock. In 1848 they came to Illinois, taking up their residence in Dayton, this county, in June of that year. As the father was a carpenter, after coming to Henry county, he combined that trade with his agricultural pursuits, winning more than a competence for his labors. He died December 19, 1874, while his wife lived until March 31, 1879, when she



CHARLES BAUM



too passed away and was buried in the cemetery at Colóna. He was a republican in politics, was active in public affairs, and, being a man of upright character, enjoyed the esteem and respect of his fellowmen. Of the eight children born to him and his wife, two only are now living: Charles, the subject of this sketch; and Franklin, of Milan, Illinois.

Charles Baum early assisted in the work of the farm, indeed almost from the time his parents came to Henry county, when being eleven years of age, he was able to do considerable work as well as to assume the responsibility of some of the lighter tasks. He obtained his education in the district schools. Shortly after the inauguration of the Civil war he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving for a period of three years or until hostilities ceased. He participated in twenty-three battles and ninety-seven skirmishes, but he was never wounded, nor taken prisoner nor compelled to remain in the hospital. He was ever found at his post of duty and at the close of the war, when discharged, was given honorable mention for never having missed a day's service.

After the culmination of hostilities, Mr. Baum returned to his home in Colóna township, married and engaged in farming upon his own responsibility. He has prospered with the lapse of years, so that now he is in possession of four hundred and eighty acres of fine, arable land. With advancing years he has given up the active operation of his farm, leaving that to his sons, who have ably followed out the lines of progressive and thorough cultivation which he planned and which served him so well during the past half century. He never spared himself nor his industry where he believed success lay in his exertion, but he was never a man to waste labor, any more than he permitted his substance to be squandered through thoughtlessness and poor management, but with the care and thrift which are characteristic of the best husbandman, he conserved all his resources. In this way he derived increased returns from his labor.

After Mr. Baum returned with such an honorable record from the scene of battle, he wedded, in November, 1866, Miss Angeline Meer, a daughter of John and Susan Meer. In 1854 her parents came to Colóna township, from Bucyrus, Ohio, and here engaged in farming, which Mr. Meers pursued until his death. Both he and his wife passed away a number of years ago, but the memory of their useful lives still lingers. Mr. and Mrs. Baum are the parents of four children: Harvey, who is married and is engaged in farming in Colóna township; Amos A., who is also married and engaged in agricultural pursuits here; Etta M., who is the wife of Lewis Elwell, of Rock Island; and Charles, who is deceased.

Mr. Baum cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, and has since been a strong adherent of the principles of the republican party, taking an active interest in political affairs. For fifteen years he served as the Colóna township member of the county board of supervisors; he has also served as township trustee, as road supervisor and as a member of the school board for a long term of years. In all of these capacities he proved himself faithful to every public trust, and a man actively concerned for the welfare of his fellow citizens. He is a member of Graham Post, No. 312, G. A. R., of Moline. While not a member of any religious denomination, Mr. Baum has guided his actions by the highest Christian principles and has put the golden rule to practical application. Pro-

gressive in his own interests, he is also an advocate of public improvements, believing that only through the espousal of the cause of advancement may a community claim to be in the fore rank of modern civilization. Mrs. Baum shared in the good will and respect bestowed upon Mr. Baum, but she was called to her eternal rest December 9, 1906, and was buried in the cemetery at Colona.

---

### DAVID FIRCH.

David Firch, who died September 26, 1909, was then living retired in Geneseo after thirty-five years spent in tilling the soil in Edford township. He was born in West Prussia, Germany, March 30, 1840, and is the son of Michael and Emma (Sierodt) Firch. The parents were also natives of West Prussia, where the father was born in 1817 and the mother in 1815. In 1867 they came to the United States, and upon their arrival in Henry county, Illinois, Mr. Firch took up farming in Edford township. He was permitted to enjoy the advantages of the new country but three years, however, for he died in 1870. His widow, on the other hand, lived until 1899 and witnessed the success which her son attained here. They were the parents of ten children, two of whom died in the old country, and two are now living: Caroline, the wife of George Hohenbocken, of Geneseo; and Frederick, of Edford township.

David Firch received his education in the schools of West Prussia, and farmed with his father until he became of age. In 1865, two years before his parents, he came to the United States and in Edford township began farming. He bought first sixty acres, to which, after four years he added one hundred and eighty acres, and then in fifteen or twenty years purchased one hundred and sixty acres more. He later disposed of all of this but still owned about seven hundred and ten acres embraced in three farms in the state of Minnesota. In the thirty-five years he lived in Edford township he brought his fields to a high state of cultivation and greatly improved the farm by the erection of substantial buildings. In 1893 he retired from active life and the next year removed into the house which he had rented to tenants from 1880, it being located on Geneseo and Main streets, Geneseo.

In 1867 Mr. Firch married Miss Ottilie Oelke, who was born in West Prussia, September 26, 1849. Her parents, John L. and Emma (Fenske) Oelke, were also natives of Prussia and lived there until their deaths, which occurred in the case of the mother about eight years ago, but that of the father several years previous. They had ten children, four now living: Augusta, the wife of Fred Abraham, of Prussia Ottilie, now Mrs. Firch; Anna, the wife of Charles Hamann, now of Osco township; and Frank, who lives in Berlin. Of Mr. and Mrs. Firch's six children, four are living. Augusta is the wife of Henry Hamann, of Edford township, and they have five children, John, Walter, Lily, Theresa and Leona. Amelia is the wife of Henry Wiese, of Edford township, and they have two children, Rosa and Roy. Emma is the wife of Charles Blank, of Edford township, and they have five children, Martha, Ida, Elmer, Olga and Mildred. Louise is the widow of Emiel Ruhnke, who died in Chicago. She has

no children and lives with her mother in Geneseo. All of the children received their education in the district schools of Edford township.

The family are members of the German Lutheran church, in which Mr. Firch was collector for six years until his health failed and he was compelled to resign the position. In political matters he gave his support to the republican party but never took any part in public affairs. When he came to this country he had no money, only the clothes upon his back. But he was ambitious and industrious and through the help of his good wife accumulated over seven hundred acres of good land and a comfortable home, and made a host of friends, who witnessed his struggles and the manner in which he surmounted them, and were unanimous in according to him their good will.

---

### EUGENE C. O'CONNOR.

Eugene C. O'Connor, who has always identified himself with the labor movement and striven to work toward a general uplifting and betterment of the men who toil, is one of the representative citizens of Kewanee, where he is at present conducting an undertaking establishment and picture framing and art goods store. He is a native of the city, having been born December 26, 1859, and is a son of Owen and Mary (Handibode) O'Connor.

The father was born in County Wexford, Ireland, in 1823, and like so many of his countrymen he sought a better opportunity for advancement under the stars and stripes, coming to the United States in 1850, and to Kewanee, Illinois, in 1854. Almost immediately he secured employment as a teamster on the construction work of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and later engaged in general teaming until his death, which occurred in 1887. In 1857 he married Mary Handibode, born in West Meath, Ireland, who came to the United States in 1855, locating in Kewanee. She bore her husband eleven children, as follows: James, who lives in Kewanee; Eugene C., of this review; Mary, who married P. F. Howard, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania; Martin R., who also resides in Greensburg; Margaret, who married F. B. Stanton, of Kewanee; Rosa, the wife of P. H. O'Brien, of this city; John P., a contractor of Chicago; Agnes, who married M. J. Brennan of Kewanee; Joseph W., also a contractor of Chicago; Thomas M. and Stephen Edward, who are living in Kewanee.

Eugene C. O'Connor was educated in the city schools and when still a boy began working in the coal mines and as a farm hand. He has met and mingled with many classes of men, having learned the carpenter's trade at which he worked for some years. Afterward he was connected with various lines of business until 1905, when he established himself in an undertaking business, and he also handles art goods and frames pictures. His undertaking establishment is one of the most complete in Henry county and every facility is afforded for the proper conduct of the last sad rites. He has been successful in his ventures, for he possesses indomitable will and perseverance and forces through issues he believes are right and proper.

In 1890 Mr. O'Connor married Mary Keeney, of Kewanee, who died September 15, 1898. Three children were born to them: Eugene, who passed away at the age of fourteen months; and Marjorie and Lawrence R., both students.

In 1903 Mr. O'Connor was elected mayor of Kewanee and served the city faithfully during two years. It was while he was in office that so many improvements were made. There were fourteen miles of sidewalks laid at that time. South Main street was paved with asphalt; North Main street and South Chestnut with brick; and Willard street with concrete. Nine and one half miles of sewerage were put in, and a large amount of water mains were laid. After much agitation, Mayor O'Connor managed to have the water works refitted with compressor and new boilers, and he had the city purchase a new chemical engine for the fire department. During his administration more brick crossings were put in than under any other mayor and he was only stopped in his plans by lack of cooperation and funds. His whole administration was marked by a business-like system that worked for the ultimate benefit of all interested.

However, it is as a labor leader that Mr. O'Connor is best known. He has affiliated himself with many fraternal orders and holds office in nearly all of them, belonging to the Knights of Columbus, of which he is district deputy; the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he is deputy high chief ranger; of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of which he is county president; of Boss Lodge, No. 858, Mystic Workers, of which he is secretary; and of the Improved Order of Red Men, the Elks and the Eagles. His religious connections are with the Catholic church. Socially he belongs to the Commercial Club and he is one of its directors and also a director of the Kewanee Baseball Association. There are few men who have done more than he with their lives, considering that he began as a boy worker in the coal mines, and has risen to the highest office within the gift of his fellow townsmen. While in office Mr. O'Connor justified every trust placed in him, he carried out every promise and made Kewanee a paying corporation. Kind-hearted, genial, with a warm spot in his heart for all who need help or comfort, he is an ideal citizen and well fitted to carry on his present business.

---

#### WALTER W. SMITH.

Walter W. Smith, one of the native agriculturists of Henry county, who is conducting his father's farm of three hundred and twenty acres, lying on section 9, Osco township, was born in Western township, near the village of Orion, January 25, 1880. His parents are John F. and Mary Elizabeth (Smith) Smith, of whom extended mention is made in another part of this volume.

Walter W. Smith spent his boyhood days upon the home farm, and as he was the eldest of the six children born to his parents, he was early initiated into the work of the farm, assisting in its operation as soon as he was strong enough to handle the farm implements. After completing the course of study prescribed by the country schools he attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899. He then went to Knox College, Gales-

burg, and after a three years' course returned to his father's farm, where he took up his life work. To this place he brought his bride, about four years ago, and here he has since lived. Although still in the early years of his manhood, Mr. Smith possesses those qualities that should make him one of the substantial agriculturists of his locality, for he has many things to his credit, being industrious, progressive in his ideas and not afraid to exert himself in the pursuit of the success which he hopes to attain.

While in college Mr. Smith became acquainted with Miss Velmya Donizetta Howlett, a daughter of Dr. G. C. and Sarah Elizabeth (Smith) Howlett. She was born and reared in Atkinson and attended the high school in Geneseo and at West Superior, Wisconsin. On the 5th of June, 1906, in Atkinson, were pronounced the words which made the young people man and wife, and their union has been blessed with two children: Karl, born in Geneseo, February 11, 1907; and Zona, born in Osco township, August 2, 1909.

Mr. Smith is a member of the English Lutheran church at Morristown, while his wife is an equally consistent adherent of the Congregational faith. Although he is interested in public affairs and keeps himself informed in regard to national issues, he does not give implicit allegiance to any party, for he prefers to decide upon the merits of each candidate and each question as it is presented to him. He is a zealous Mason, and is almost invariably present at the meetings of Stewart Lodge, No. 92, A. F. & A. M.

---

### J. LUTHER LOUGH.

The invariable law of destiny accords a successful career to tireless energy and honest labor, and this statement finds verification in the life record of J. Luther Lough, who for more than thirty years has been closely identified with farming and stock-raising interests in Henry county. A native of West Virginia, he was born on a farm near Morgantown, Monongalia county, and comes from an old Virginia family, the grandfather and great-grandfather on the paternal side having been numbered among the pioneers of the Old Dominion state. The grandfather, Joseph Lough, was born in Scotland and came with his father to America in his youth. They resided in Pennsylvania for a time and later moved to Virginia. There the father of our subject, Mathew Lough, was born, on a farm within a half mile of that upon which the son's birth occurred, while the mother, who in her maidenhood was Malinda Cordray, was born in the same county. J. Luther Lough was one of twelve children. Harvey, a brother, who resides in Osco township, Henry county, is mentioned on another page of this volume. Mathew Lough, the father, passed away in 1886, at the age of eighty-one years, while the mother survived until March 4, 1905, when she had reached her eighty-eighth year. Both are interred on the home farm in West Virginia.

No event of special importance came to vary the routine of life for J. Luther Lough during the period of his boyhood and youth, which were spent on his father's farm. His education, acquired in the district schools, was necessarily limited, for his father was not an able-bodied man, and it was necessary for him

to assist in the cultivation of the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority and during that time gained large and comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of carrying on agriculture, experience which proved very beneficial to him in later years. In 1879 he left his native state and came to Henry county, Illinois, where he became engaged as a farm hand near Cambridge, working by the month. His time was thus employed until his marriage, after which, desiring that his efforts might more directly benefit himself, he engaged in agricultural pursuits as a renter, operating the farm which is now his own in that capacity for four years. He then rented a farm near Osco for three years, at the expiration of which period, in 1895, he returned and purchased his present place, consisting of one hundred and fifty-six acres on section 30, Osco township. The purchase price was seventy-five dollars per acre, and at that time he had nothing with which to pay for it except some land in Kansas, valued at about one thousand dollars. He immediately set about the further development of his property, however, and in the course of years brought it under a high state of cultivation, his fields returning rich harvests as the reward of the care and labor bestowed upon them, while as he prospered he was able to meet every obligation. He made many improvements upon the place, and that it proved an excellent investment is indicated by the fact that in 1909 he sold the farm for one hundred and sixty dollars per acre, a great advance over the original cost. In the meantime he engaged in general agricultural pursuits and also devoted considerable time and attention to breeding and shipping stock, both branches of his business proving most gratifying sources of remuneration. Having sold his farming interests in Osco township he expects to remove to Herrington, Kansas, in the spring of 1910, where he will make his home in the future.

It was on the 22d of February, 1888, in Orion, Illinois, that Mr. Lough was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Howell, a daughter of Charles G. and Sarah C. (Holland) Howell. She was born in Monongalia county, West Virginia, on the 6th of September, 1861, and when a little maiden of eight summers came with her parents to Henry county. Her father still survives and is living retired in Oklahoma, while her mother passed away on the 10th of April, 1905, in Olathe, Kansas, her remains being interred at Orion. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Lough has been blessed with six children. Cecile M., the eldest, was born on the 4th of January, 1889, and after attending high school in Cambridge for three years, entered Geneseo Collegiate Institute, from which she was graduated with the class of 1908, after which she taught school for one term. Edgar H. was born on the 10th of January, 1891, and after attending the common schools, took a course in bookkeeping in Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Grace D., born October 24, 1894, has completed her eighth year in school, while Mary C., born on the 12th of November, 1896, is now in her seventh year. Charles M. and Helen M., were born on the 1st of March, 1899, and the 28th of February, 1901, respectively. All are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Lough belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife is a member of the Baptist church, the former having served as a church trustee for some time also taking an active part in the Sunday-school work. Fraternally he belongs to Orion Post, No. 648, I. O. O. F., of which he is a charter member,

and also to Camp No. 2248, M. W. A., at Osco, having filled all of the chairs in both organizations. In politics he gives stalwart support to the republican party, having cast his first presidential vote for Hāyes in 1876. He has ever been a warm champion of the cause of education and served for nine years as school trustee of Osco township. He also served on the educational committee and was a member thereof when an expert was employed to audit the books. In 1902 he was elected to the office of supervisor and occupied that office for four years continuously. In all matters relative to the progress and improvement of the community he is interested and gives his support to many measures for the public good. Progressive and energetic in his business, all that he now possesses or enjoys has come to him as the reward of earnest labor. Early realizing that success is not a matter of genius but is rather the result of experience and industry, he has therefore learned life's lessons well, made good use of his opportunities, and, through his persistency of purpose, actuated by a laudable ambition, and his straightforward dealings he has gained high rank among the county's substantial and desirable citizens.

---

#### GEORGE BAXTER DUNCAN, M. D.

The physician of today occupies a very responsible position with regard to his community. Owing to changes in methods of living, increased danger to life and limb, and the necessity of better sanitation, the people generally are very dependent upon the intelligence and skill of the physicians and surgeons who are among them. One of the best known physicians of Henry county is Dr. George Baxter Duncan, who has lived in Kewanee since 1897 and is now recognized as one of its leading medical men. He was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, October 26, 1854, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Cation) Duncan. The father was a native of Scotland, who came to the United States when twenty-five years old, about 1830. Although a tailor by trade, he began farming upon his arrival in the new world. He had learned his trade in Edinburgh. His death occurred when he was eighty years old, but his wife died when sixty-two years old.

Dr. Duncan was educated in the country schools and remained on the farm until he was twenty-three years old, when he decided to begin the study of medicine at Milton, Wisconsin, and was graduated in 1896 from what was then the National Medical College of Chicago but is now the Homeopathic Medical department of the Northwestern University. Subsequent to his graduation, Dr. Duncan went to Constantine, Michigan, but in 1897 located in Kewanee and has been in active practice here ever since. He is a member of the Physicians Club of Kewanee, of the Galva District and the Henry County Medical Societies, and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic Order, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers and is medical examiner for the last named lodge.

In December, 1877, Dr. Duncan married Ella Whitbeck, a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Whitbeck, of Floyd, Iowa. She was graduated from the

same school of medicine as her husband in the same class but has retired from active practice. Three children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Duncan, namely: Maud, who married Arthur Caverno, of New York city, manager of the Kewanee Water Supply Company; Edith, who married Fred Steer, of Kewanee, assistant foreman of the National Tube Works of Kewanee; and Ida, who married Thomas M. Biddlecombe, principal of schools of La Fayette, Illinois.

Dr. Duncan is an excellent physician but not a surgeon and is a typical representative of his school of medicine. He is a man of dignity of character, honesty of purpose and sympathetic manner that makes him welcome in the sick-room. His practice is a large one and is increasing with each year of his residence here.

---

### ANDREW ERICSON.

Andrew Ericson, who for upward of a score of years has operated successfully a large tract of land in Weller township, was born in Helsingland, Sweden, December 23, 1860. His parents, Eric and Christine (Johnson) Ericson, were also natives of the same province, where they spent all of their lives. The father was an agriculturist during the years of his activity. He passed away December 23, 1904, but the mother is still living in Sweden at the age of sixty-six years.

Andrew Ericson received his early training under the guidance of his parents at his home and in the public schools of his native land. In 1880, when he was about twenty years of age, he started for the United States, feeling confident that here he could better his fortunes. After crossing the Atlantic he made his way almost directly to Weller township, this county, where he secured work as a farm hand. After two years' experience, he went to Anoka, Minnesota, obtaining employment in the sawmills there. But Bishop Hill seemed to him to offer better opportunities for advancement, so he returned after a sojourn of three years in the northern state and again found work upon a farm. It was two years after that, in 1887, that he began farming on his own account. First he leased a tract of eighty acres near the village of Bishop Hill, and then, while he retained that land, he rented another tract of equal area, to which he removed. Two years later, while still renting those two farms, he leased a tract of two hundred and thirty-five acres, on which he has lived and worked for the past sixteen years. For the first two years of his residence here, he operated all three of the farms but at the expiration of that time, in order to be able to devote more attention to the larger place, he relinquished the first two places, cultivating the tract on which he now lives exclusively. In the past he gave much time to the raising of broom corn, but of late years he has raised general crops, and has raised about thirty head of full blooded cattle annually. From all of his industries he has derived a comfortable income.

Mr. Ericson has been twice married. On the 29th of May, 1885, in Bishop Hill, he was united to Miss Erica Ericson, a daughter of Eric N. Ericson, a well known farmer of Bishop Hill. Three children were born to them: Selma C., who is the wife of Fred Anderson, an agriculturist of Bishop Hill; Ernest E.,

now engaged in farming in Dakota; and Leroy A., who is still at home and assists his father on the farm. Later Mr. Ericson wedded Miss Elizabeth Sandberg, a daughter of Peter Sandberg, a blacksmith of Bishop Hill. Four children have been born of this union: Estella M., Herman T., William C. and Laura R.

While generally Mr. Ericson gives his support in political matters to the republican party, he is not infrequently non-partisan in his views, casting his vote and influence as he deems best after having made a thorough investigation of the question at issue. He has, through a period of three years, rendered efficient service as highway commissioner, but in no sense of the word could he be called an office seeker. In fraternal matters, he has so far confined his affiliations to the Modern Woodmen of America, being an active member of the camp at Bishop Hill.

---

### NELSON H. LOWRY, M. D.

Dr. Nelson H. Lowry, one of the best known physicians of Henry county, whose skill and sympathy have distinguished his practice and made him an honored resident of Clover township, was born February 1, 1847, in Erie county, Pennsylvania, a son of Samuel and Ruth Ann (Parsons) Lowry. The father, who was a shoemaker, gave his son but few advantages and, as he lost his mother when he was eight years old, he was taken by his uncle, Dr. Ephraim Parsons to Muscatine, Illinois, in 1855. Dr. Parsons practiced in Altona and Kewanee for many years and under his instruction Nelson H. Lowry began to study the rudiments of his profession, even while attending the public schools of Altona. However, the Civil war interrupted them and he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry for one hundred days. The regiment saw active service with the Army of the Cumberland. After being mustered out the young man returned to Kewanee and began seriously to study medicine under the direction of his uncle. One year later he entered Cornell University of Ithaca, New York, as a member of the class of 1869, which was the first to be graduated from that institution. After leaving the university he entered the Hahnemann Homeopathic Medical College at Chicago, graduating in the class of 1872, and he began the practice of his profession at Woodhull, March 8, 1872, and here he has continued ever since. He is engaged in general practice and has been very successful, numbering the best people of Clover township among his patients.

On July 10, 1872, Dr. Lowry married Grace C. Fairman, a daughter of Andrew P. and Naomi (Wood) Fairman, of Ithaca, New York, formerly of Rhode Island. Her parents became residents of Woodhull, where both died and their remains were interred in Woodhull cemetery. Dr. and Mrs. Lowry became the parents of five sons and one daughter, namely: Fayette C., who is married and resides at Houston, Texas, where he is employed in a bank; Harry C.; Anna and Daniel K., at home; Nelson H., a medical student; and Merrill L., who is attending the University of Illinois.

Dr. Lowry has a fine farm adjoining the town of Woodhull, where he breeds high grade horses for speed and roadsters, making a specialty of the "Wilkes"

and "Electioneers" and has been very successful in this business. From his farm have come some of the best speed horses of the day and all of his stock is fine bred and high class. He has an excellent half-mile track on his farm for training purposes and here the Woodhull horse fair is held each year. Dr. Lowry uses his farm as a recreation from his professional cares. He loves a good horse and finds much pleasure in driving. In politics he is a republican and takes an interest in public affairs and has always favored the advancement of his community. As long as Holden Post, G. A. R., of Woodhull, was in existence he belonged to it, being a charter member. He is also a charter member of camp No. 1315, M. W. A., and is its examining physician, as he is also of the Mystic Workers of the World, to which he belongs. Dr. Lowry is the examining physician for the Cosmopolitan Life Insurance Company as well as for several other old line life insurance companies.

His family are members of the Presbyterian church and active in its work and in the Sunday school, and while Dr. Lowry does not hold membership in the church he is liberal in its support and interested in its success. Woodlawn farm, the family home, is famous for its fine horses, liberal hospitality and many of the leading social functions of Woodhull occur beneath its roof. The Doctor has always been interested in scientific research and earlier in life devoted much time to study and investigation. Not many years ago he made a collection of Mississippi river fish for Cornell University and Oxford University, England. Finely educated, thoroughly abreast of his profession, Dr. Lowry is one of the best representatives of the medical profession now practicing in Henry county.

---

#### MELVIN O. SPROUSE.

Melvin O. Sprouse, a farmer of Oxford township, was born in Weller township, Henry county, August 16, 1878, and is a son of Isaac and Mary (Anderson) Sprouse. The mother was born in Sweden, though reared in America, while the father was a native of Virginia. As a very young man, however, he left his southern home and came to Henry county, Illinois, where he took up farming. Shortly after the inauguration of the Civil war he enlisted as a member of Company G, Eighty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and during the three and a half years of his service participated in many of the hard fought battles of that conflict. When his country no longer required his services he returned to Henry county and to the life he had left. He became successful in his own affairs and widely known as a man whose activity in public matters was always directed to progressive measures, from which his fellowmen would derive great benefit. On the 15th of August, 1904, his useful life was brought to a close, but his widow still survives.

Melvin O. Sprouse grew to manhood on his father's farm, participating in the work which was carried on there as soon as he was old enough. The practical training he received was supplemented by the course of instruction provided by the district schools, which he attended as regularly as he could during the months they were in session. At the age of twenty-five he married and began

farming for himself. The first year he rented a farm in Weller township, then removed to Osco township and a year later to Munson, where he remained two years. In 1907 he came to Oxford township, where he now lives, but on the 1st of March, 1910, intends to move to Weller again. Progressive in his ideas and employing modern methods in the cultivation of his fields he has attained a marked success and finds his efforts rewarded by a handsome income.

On the 17th of February, 1904, Mr. Sprouse was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Eiker, who is a daughter of William and Emma (James) Eiker, of Woodhull, and was one of the county's popular and progressive teachers. They have two interesting little daughters, Helen and Ada. While Mr. and Mrs. Sprouse are not members of any church, they affiliate with and contribute to the support of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Politically Mr. Sprouse is a democrat, but he is not an active nor aggressive partisan; on the contrary he is interested and well informed upon all matters of public concern and is able to support his position by sound arguments. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife belongs to the Royal Neighbors. A young man of high character he enjoys a high standing in the community to which he and Mrs. Sprouse belong. Both being very fond of reading, their home is well supplied with the best standard and current literature, and their influence is always given to such undertakings which are calculated to better the general social conditions around them. To educational matters especially they give their attention, advocating a progress that will keep abreast of the times.

---

### HENRY ATWELL.

Henry Atwell, a well known and progressive farmer and stock raiser of Cornwall township, is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land on section 15, and in its cultivation has won a gratifying measure of success. His birth occurred in Somersetshire, England, on the 24th of March, 1847, his parents being James and Mary Atwell. He was reared on the home farm and obtained a fair education in the common schools. When but nine years old he secured employment in the lead mines, where he remained until he had attained the age of about sixteen and then went to work on his uncle's farm. In 1869, having determined to establish his home in the United States, he set sail for the new world and after landing on American shores made his way at once to Illinois. On reaching Chicago he found that his financial resources were exhausted and had to borrow five dollars in order to come to Henry county.

Finding immediate employment a necessity, he here began working as a farm hand at a wage of eighteen dollars per month and the next season received twenty-two dollars per month. At the end of about seven years, by dint of close economy, he had saved sufficient capital to enable him to rent a tract of land in Cornwall township and thus he was identified with agricultural pursuits for about fourteen years. On the expiration of that period, in 1893, he found himself able to purchase a farm of his own and came into possession of one hundred

and sixty acres of land on section 15, Cornwall township, one-half of which is located on the northwest quarter and the other half on the southeast quarter of the section. He paid fifty dollars an acre for the property and has since devoted his attention to its further cultivation and improvement with excellent results, the well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon them. He is likewise engaged in stock raising and this branch of his business has contributed materially to his income.

On the 11th of February, 1879, in Atkinson, Illinois, Mr. Atwell was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Dupree, who was born at Norwich, New York, on the 22d of April, 1856, her parents being Henry and Caroline (Barker) Dupree, natives of Hamburg and Berlin, Germany, respectively. They were married in that country and subsequently crossed the Atlantic to the United States, Henry Dupree following the cabinetmaker's trade in New York for about twenty-two years. At the end of that time he came with his family to Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, and in addition to working at his trade also gave his attention to the operation of forty acres of land which he purchased west of the city. He passed away in 1906 at the age of ninety-six years, having for almost a quarter of a century survived his wife, whose demise occurred in 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Atwell are the parents of seven children, namely: Edward J., who was born June 26, 1881; Bernice E., whose birth occurred October 5, 1883, and who is now the wife of Bernard Charlet, of Cambridge township; Frank, born October 17, 1885, who is an electrician of Ladd, Illinois; Clarence C., whose natal day was June 23, 1889; Howard L., who was born December 4, 1891; Maude E., born July 8, 1893, who is now a sophomore in the Atkinson high school; and Harold James, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 28th of December, 1896.

Mr. Atwell exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party but has no desire for the honors and emoluments of public office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his private affairs. His wife is a devoted and consistent member of the Baptist church in Cambridge. Arriving in the United States with no capital save a stout heart and willing hands, he realized the fact that while in this country labor is unhampered by caste or class it is only by unfaltering diligence, guided by sound judgment, that success can be secured. By the exercise of these qualities he has made steady progress and is now one of the substantial and representative residents of his community.

---

### MICHAEL COLLINS QUINN.

Michael Collins Quinn, who was one of the best known citizens of Kewanee, left a record which is in many respects worthy of emulation. Starting out in life for himself at the age of fifteen years and working in an humble way in his boyhood days, he became imbued with the laudable ambition to attain something better and steadily advanced in those walks of life demanding intellectuality, business ability and fidelity. He thus came to command the respect and esteem not only of his own community but wherever he was known.

He was born October 4, 1847, and was reared by an uncle on a farm near New Haven, Connecticut, spending his life amid rural surroundings to the age of about fifteen years, when he went to New York city, where he secured employment and thus started out for himself. Subsequently he removed to Utica, New York, where he secured a situation in the meat market of Whiffen Brothers, but thinking that the middle west offered better business opportunities he made his way to Illinois about 1866, settling in Kewanee. Here he secured a situation in the grocery store of Mr. Hopkins and later was in the employ of the firm of Shelton & Fessler. He was ambitious, however, to engage in business on his own account and, therefore, eagerly embraced the opportunity of forming a partnership with John Whiffen for the conduct of a meat market. This was carried on until 1873, when he sold out and went to Little Rock, Arkansas, and Fort Scott, Kansas, there entering into business relations as a traveling salesman. In 1874, however, he returned to Kewanee and purchased the Bazaar from Thomas Bennison. The new enterprise proved a profitable venture, his sales increasing as the result of his carefully selected stock, reasonable prices and honorable dealing. Later he removed to the corner of Tremont and Third streets, on the present site of the store now occupied by S. L. Arter, and while there formed a partnership with E. D. Mayhew and F. E. Terry under the firm name of Quinn, Mayhew & Terry. This firm existed until 1880, when Mr. Quinn erected what is known as the Quinn block on Main street and began business there with Mr. Terry under the firm style of Quinn & Terry. They did not confine their attention alone to merchandising, however, but branched out into other fields, whereby their income was annually augmented. In 1891 they purchased the Kewanee elevator and at the same time conducted the grocery store, Mr. Quinn, however, devoting his attention particularly to the grain trade. In 1896 he sold his interest in the grocery store to F. E. Terry and L. E. Nobiling and became sole proprietor of the grain business, which he continued to conduct until his retirement from active life in 1903. Thereafter he devoted his attention to the improvement and sale of his real estate and to the activities which devolved upon him in his connection with the First National Bank and the Union Building & Loan Association. He was one of the organizers of that association, in the development of which he was deeply interested and in which he held all of the offices. At one time he was a director of the Union National Bank, and at the time of his demise was the vice president of the First National Bank. His judgment was sound concerning the management of financial affairs and his opinions constituted a forceful factor in the successful management of the banks.

On the 11th of March, 1876, Mr. Quinn was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. White, and they became the parents of four children: Maytie and Myrtie, the eldest, were twins. The former is now the wife of C. A. Wylie, a grain merchant of Kewanee. Myrtie is the wife of M. Hurd, engaged in the real estate business in Kewanee. Leonard D., the elder son, is an attorney at law, who was born in Kewanee and pursued his education in the public schools of this city. After completing his literary course he devoted two years to study in the law department of the University of Wisconsin and completed his course in the Law School of the Northwestern University at Chicago. He was then

admitted to the bar in 1903 and entered upon general practice in Kewanee, where he has made an excellent record as an able and learned lawyer, whose ability has brought to him a large clientage and connected him with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of the district. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also belongs to the First Presbyterian church. In community affairs he is also active, has served as a trustee of the village of Wethersfield and by appointment of the village board has filled the office of village attorney. James M. Quinn, the younger son of the family, is now a student of the University of Pennsylvania.

The father suffered from a stroke of paralysis on the 1st of May, 1907, and passed away on the 14th of the same month. He thoroughly enjoyed home life and took great pleasure in the society of his family and friends. He was also courteous, kindly and affable and those who knew him personally had for him warm regard. A man of great natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his residence in Henry county was uniform and rapid. He persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward, while his own high moral worth was deserving of the highest commendation.

---

#### OSCAR H. LARSON.

Oscar H. Larson, supervisor and an enterprising and progressive farmer of Western township, was born on a farm in Lynn township, Henry county, on the 10th of August, 1865, a son of Andrew G. and Helen Sophia (Larson) Larson. The father, who was born in Sweden, his birth occurring on the 28th of March, 1835, came to America as a young man of nineteen years, and here on September 15, 1859, married Miss Larson, who although of the same name was no relation. She was also a native of Sweden, born August 4, 1834, and came to America with her parents when a young girl, the family home being established in Lynn township. The father became the owner of two hundred acres of land in Lynn township, for which he paid eight dollars per acre, and later sold this tract and purchased two hundred and sixty-six acres in Western township, paying fifty-two and a half dollars per acre. He still survives at the age of seventy-five years, living retired in Orion, Illinois, while his wife passed away about 1878. In their family were nine children, of which the subject was the fourth in order of birth. The others are: Ida, the wife of Albert Peterson, residing in Chicago; Emma, who married Alfred Henry and died in Wakefield, Nebraska, leaving four children; Anna, living with her father in Orion; Clara, also with her father; Francis, who was married on October 26, 1899, to Miss Othelia Engquist, and publishes the Swedish-American in Chicago; Victor, a resident of Wausa, Nebraska, who also owns a farm in Clark county, South Dakota; and Augusta and Gustaf Henry, who died in infancy.

Spending the years of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm in Lynn township, Oscar H. Larson received a good common school education and when twenty-one years of age pursued a course of study in a business college at Davenport, Iowa, thus becoming well equipped for the responsible and practical duties

of life. He remained at home until about twenty-three years of age and then, in 1889, opened up a grocery store in partnership with F. L. Anderson, this connection continuing for about one year. They were very successful in their undertaking, but in 1891 Mr. Larson sold out his interest and went to Rockford, Illinois, where he became a partner or stockholder in a furniture factory, remaining in that city until 1897. In the meantime, in 1895, he was employed by a real estate firm as traveling agent, and during that year covered a large extent of territory, including Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Indian Territory and Texas. On the 20th of May, 1897, Mr. Larson was united in marriage in Orion to Miss Amelia Swanson, who was born in Western township, May 12, 1871, a daughter of John V. and Anna Marie (Peterson) Swanson, both natives of Sweden. The father, who was born September 6, 1835, came to America with his parents in 1852, when about seventeen years of age, while the mother, who was born January 8, 1846, was a little maiden of four summers when she accompanied her parents to this country in 1849, the family being numbered among the pioneers of Western township, Henry county. Of their family of nine children Mrs. Larson was the fourth in order of birth, the others being: Hannah Marie, the wife of John A. Anderson, of Holdridge, Nebraska, by whom she has six children, Alice, Victor, Anna, Julia, Alfred and Edna; Joseph Albert, a resident of Windom, Kansas, who married Ellen Peterson and has one child, Albert N.; John N., a resident of Galveston, Texas, who married Mabel T. Gallupe, by whom he has three children, Gracia, Barbara, and Charles V., who is a graduate of Bethany College at Lindsborg, Kansas, and at one time was teacher of penmanship in Northwestern Normal College at Geneseo; Luther E., making his home in Western township, who married Mary Johnson and has three children, Martin, Mildred and Clarence; Carl A., who married Julia Peterson and lives in Western township; William, who also resides in this township; Otto, who married Emily M. Isaacson and makes his home in Western township; and Victor C., also of this township. \*Mrs. Larson has lost both parents, the mother passing away on the 29th of August, 1908, and the father on the 29th of July, 1909.

After his marriage Mr. Larson removed to his father's farm, which he continued to operate until 1903, when he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, paying one hundred and six and a half dollars per acre. Later in 1909 he invested in another tract of eighty acres, at one hundred and fifty dollars per acre, and he now owns one hundred and sixty acres located on section 28, Western township, all of which he has brought under an excellent state of cultivation. He has erected in its midst a fine modern residence and has introduced many good improvements, so that the place is now one of the valuable and desirable properties in the township. Progressive and up-to-date in his methods, his business has been so carefully and wisely conducted that he now ranks high among the industrious, enterprising and substantial agriculturists of the locality.

With the passing of the years one child came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Larson, Elsie Marie Evaline, whose birth occurred on the 9th of December, 1900, and who is the light and life of the household. The parents are members of the Swedish Lutheran church in Orion, the teachings of which form the guiding influence in their lives. Mr. Larson is a republican in politics, and

although he has never been an aspirant for public office, in 1908 he was offered the nomination for supervisor and was elected to that office, being appointed on the building committee. The following year he was placed upon the purchasing committee and also on a special committee to build a bridge over Rock river at Colona. This project fell through, however, when Rock Island failed to do her part. He was a member of the board who helped to elect John F. Smith chairman of the board. He has ever been public spirited in his citizenship, at all times casting his influence on the side of those matters which have for their object the general improvement and advancement, and his loyalty to the public interest is unquestioned, arising from a deep interest in the welfare of the community. His has been a life of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor, and by the consensus of public opinion he ranks high among the substantial, representative and influential citizens of Western township.

---

### WILLIAM MILLER.

William Miller, whose demise occurred on the 22d of March, 1902, was closely identified with the interests and upbuilding of Henry county for two-thirds of a century, having taken up his abode at Andover in 1836. He was born in Peekskill, New York, on the 31st of March, 1816, his parents being George and Mary Miller. The father followed farming near Peekskill throughout his active business career and passed away there when sixty-seven years of age. The mother was about seventy years old when called to her final rest. In their family were six sons and four daughters, namely: Bernard, William, Charles, John, Andrew, Lewis, Mary, Amanda, Eveline and Lucy.

William Miller was reared to young manhood on his father's farm near Peekskill and then went to that city to learn the carpenter's trade, with which he was actively identified for a number of years. Subsequently, however, turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. In 1836 he came to the state of Illinois with a colony that settled at Andover, Henry county, and in 1838 took up his abode in Geneseo, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for several years. He afterward purchased a quarter section of raw prairie land in Edford township, which he gradually transformed into a fertile and productive farm and on which he erected a substantial frame dwelling and other buildings. At the end of seven years he located in Geneseo and, disposing of his farm, was successfully engaged in the lumber business for a number of years.

On the 22d of December, 1842, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Harriet T. Cone, whose birth occurred in Victor, New York, December 26, 1826, her parents being Elisha and Eliza (Hill) Cone. The father was born at Wallingford, Connecticut, January 1, 1803, and the mother first opened her eyes to the light of day at Bloomfield, New York, on the 18th of April, 1810. When twenty-one years of age Elisha Cone removed to New York, where he was married two years later. On the 13th of September, 1836, he left Bergen, Genesee county, New York, with a westward bound colony and after a long and tedious journey by wagon arrived at Geneseo, Illinois. His demise occurred on the 6th



MRS. ELIZA CONE AND DAUGHTERS



of September, 1846, while his wife, surviving him for more than six decades, was called to her final rest on the 7th of June, 1908, when ninety-eight years of age. Unto them were born five children, two sons and three daughters, as follows: Mrs. Miller; Clarissa F., the deceased wife of Elisha M. Stewart; Francis S., who served as a soldier in the Civil war and is now a resident of Crescent City, Florida; Ellen A., living in Orange City, Florida, who first wedded Roderrick Manville and subsequent to his demise married Dr. P. W. Hill, who has also passed away; and Charles E., who died in a hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, as the result of his service in the Civil war. The paternal grandfather grandparents of Mrs. Miller were Solomon and Sallie Cone, and the grandfather participated in the war of 1812. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Miller, Josiah Hill, who was a farmer by occupation, passed away in Bloomfield, New York. He married Mrs. Cynthia (Cogswell) Robbins, and they had a family of thirteen children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller were born three children, namely: George Lewis, who died when but eleven months old; Emilie, the wife of W. S. Reed, a Methodist minister residing at Hampton, Illinois; and George William, who obtained a good education in Geneseo and then took up his abode in St. Joseph, Missouri, where he acted as auditor for three different railroads. He passed away there when forty-five years of age. His widow, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Goodwin, now makes her home in Rock Island.

Mr. Miller was a stanch republican in his political views and for some years capably served his fellow townsmen as a member of the city council, while for several years he also held the office of county supervisor. He was called to his final rest on the 22d of March, 1902, when eighty-six years of age, and thus the county was called upon to mourn the loss of one of its most respected and worthy pioneer settlers. He was a devoted and faithful member of the Congregational church, to which his widow also belongs. The latter, who was a little maiden of about nine years when she came with her parents to Henry county, Illinois, has since made her home within its borders and is now the only member of the original colony that settled Geneseo who is still living here. She is a gentle, kindly woman, charitable in her estimate of every one and her many excellent traits of heart and mind have won for her the esteem and admiration of a host of warm friends.

---

#### RALPH WALDO EMERSON HAYES.

No history of Galva would be complete without extended reference to the Hayes Pump & Planter Company and the men who are prominent in managing and controlling its affairs. In this connection special reference should be made of Ralph W. E. Hayes, the manager of the company and one of the foremost men of Henry county. He was born in Stark county, Illinois, February 19, 1872, and is the eldest of the five sons of Eugenio and Matilda (Dack) Hayes, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume, together with the ancestral history of the family in the paternal line. The maternal grandfather of

our subject was John Dack, a native of Dublin, Ireland, and a shoemaker by trade. When four years of age he accompanied his parents on their voyage across the Atlantic to Canada, and when he came to the United States he settled in Stark county, Illinois, about 1834. Only two years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and the environments of pioneer life were his during his early residence in the Mississippi valley. After three years spent in Stark county he purchased land in Henry county lying at the southeast corner of Wethersfield township. There his remaining days were passed and with the early development and progress of the county he was closely associated, his labors constituting a factor in its reclamation for the purpose of civilization. He married Miss Jane Michaelson, who died at the age of eighty-two years. She was about three years old when she left Scotland, her native country, her birth having occurred in Edinburg. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dack were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, eight of whom reached years of maturity: Sarah Ann, John E., Matilda J., Albert L., Thomas E., Frederick E., all of whom are now living; William E., who died at the age of twenty-two years; Charles H., who died in Andersonville prison during the Civil war, when he was twenty-one years of age; and two, who died in infancy.

Ralph W. E. Hayes has been a resident of Henry county from the age of three years. The family home was maintained on a farm about two and a half miles east of Kewanee until he was nine years of age, when his parents took up their abode in the city of Kewanee, coming thence to Galva, when he was fourteen years of age. He attended the public schools of Galva and Kewanee and was graduated from the Galva high school with the class of 1889. He afterward spent two years as a student in the Northwestern University at Evanston and in the fall of 1891 he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor where he practically completed three courses. He studied both mechanical and electrical engineering and was graduated with the class of 1895. He then returned to Galva and has since been associated with the Hayes Pump & Planter Company. He designs all their manufactured goods, his labors proving an important factor in the success which the enterprise now enjoys. The business had been established in Kewanee in 1881 but in May, 1886, was removed to Galva and has remained one of the most important of the productive industries of the city since that time, employment being now furnished to between two hundred and two hundred and fifty people.

On the 25th of February, 1896, Mr. Hayes was united in marriage to Miss Estella Mink, a daughter of William K. and Mrs. William K. (Fenton) Mink. She was born in New Marion, Indiana, and her parents were also natives of that state. They came to Henry county about 1885, settling in Galva where Mrs. Mink passed away. Mr. Mink continued to reside in Galva until 1908, when he removed to Galesburg, Illinois, where he is now living. Four daughters of the family still survive: Jennie, Estella, Nora and Nettie.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hayes has been born a daughter, Charlotte Lucile. The parents are members of the Methodist church and Mr. Hayes belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., of which he is now senior warden. He has taken the degrees of capitulary Masonry in Kewanee Chapter, No. 47, R. A. M. and of chivalric Masonry in Kewanee Commandery, No. 71, K. T. He like-

wise belongs to Peoria Consistory, S. P. R. S., and to Peoria Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, while both he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star.

His political endorsement is given to the republican party and, taking an active interest in its local work, he does all in his power to promote its growth and insure its success. He is now serving for the second term as a member of the city council and exercises his official prerogatives in support of those measures and movements which are of value as factors in a progressive and municipal life.

---

### GEORGE WASHBURN.

The student of history does not have to carry his investigations far into the records of Henry county to learn that the Washburn family has been long and prominently connected with the agricultural development of this part of the state, and George Washburn, whose name introduces this review, is now assiduously employed in the work of the farm, tilling the fields and raising, feeding and shipping stock. His home is now on the northeast quarter of section 11, Western township, but his birth occurred in Colona township, his natal day being October 20, 1863. His parents were Chauncey and Emily (Piatt) Washburn. The father was born near Springfield, Massachusetts, on the 17th of May, 1834, and was a son of Abisha and Isabella (Clapp) Washburn. He was only three years old when his parents came to Henry county, arriving in May, 1837. Only five years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and the work of civilization and improvement seemed scarcely begun in this part of the state. There were three families in the party that made the journey from Springfield, Massachusetts, to the Connecticut river. They took a boat there, proceeding down the river to Long Island sound and from that point made their way to the Erie canal and on to the Ohio river to its mouth and up the Mississippi to Hampton, being about three weeks on the way. On reaching their destination, Abisha Washburn rented a smoke house of Mr. Marshall and moved into it. It had no floor and was about ten feet square. At that time meat sold for twenty-five cents per pound. The next winter Mr. Washburn fattened a few hogs which he took to Stevenson, now Rock Island. He was paid a cent a pound for his meat and gave a dollar to cross Rock river and back on the ferry. He bought some "hard times" cloth for pants, for which he paid a dollar per yard but it could now be purchased at twenty-five cents per yard. The first wheat which the family raised was cut with the sickle or reap hook and threshed with a flail, and as there was no fanning mill they would take the grain by handfuls and throw it against the wind and the best grain would drop farthest away. The nearest mill was sixty miles, and after making the journey with an ox team they would often have to wait a week for the grist. If the supply of flour and meal became exhausted they grated corn, which they made into mush. That summer Abisha Washburn built a house into which the family moved in October. At first it had no doors nor windows and the mother would hang up a quilt before the

door. The wolves would come and sit on the doorstep or howl around the cabin at night. The next summer they raised corn and got a fair crop but after it was harvested they had to plow the land with a cast iron plow, which would be driven through the ground for about two rods and then would have to be cleaned off with a paddle. All day long they would work that way. The harrow was made out of a small forked tree and to plant the corn they marked off the ground with an eight inch bar plow, which was also of cast iron like the big plow and had to be cleaned as often. As there were no stoves in those days cooking was done over the fire place, the Washburn family having a much better fire place than some of their neighbors. Theirs was built of stone and had a crane on which to hang kettles. The bake oven consisted of a kettle about five inches deep, with a cast iron lid. This was placed on live coals drawn out on the hearth and then hot coals would be put on the lid. After a few years, however, Mr. Washburn purchased a cook stove, which was the first in the neighborhood and people would come six or eight miles to see it. As they looked on it they would exclaim "How do you cook on that. I cannot see any fire. Where do you put your fire?" In those days many of the houses were twelve or fourteen feet and the "large" houses were sixteen or eighteen feet. Some of these were made of round logs, while in others the logs were hewed on both sides and thus a fine house was built. The floors were made of puncheons and often additional space was secured by placing some joists overhead and a loose floor laid on them, this loft serving as a bedroom. The pioneers made their own shingles which were about two and a half feet long. The roof of pioneer times served very well to keep out the rain if the wind did not blow too hard, but the snow sifted in and Chauncey Washburn told that on many occasions as he got out of bed in the morning the snow lay six inches or more deep on the floor. Their house had its spinning wheel and a pair of cards. His mother carded the wool, spun the yarn to make all the socks, besides yarn to make some of the clothing, but as the sheep became more plentiful they put up a carding mill at Camden, so that the women could have their wool carded there, which greatly lessened their labor. If the fire went out some one went to a neighbor's to borrow fire unless a tinder box and steel and flint were a part of the household equipment. The tinder box was made of tin about as big around as a quart cup but not as tall. It had two lids, one that shoved down to the bottom and one that fit on the top. The tinder was made of cotton cloth which was set afire and allowed to burn almost to a coal. Then it was dropped into the box and the loose lid shoved down on it and then they had their tinder. They made their own matches in those days, taking dry pine which was cut the right length and split the right size for matches, after which one end was dropped in melted sulphur. But they would not strike fire on the matches of the present day. It was necessary to take a flint and steel, striking them together until the sparks would fly into the tinder and set it afire, then the sulphur match was put against the tinder and the necessary light was secured. Such were some of the conditions which the pioneers faced during their early experiences in this county. Brought to Illinois when but three years of age, Chauncey Washburn aided in the arduous task of developing new land through the period of his boyhood and for many years carried on farming. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emily Piatt, was born in Indiana, and on

coming to Henry county had settled near Bishop Hill. After their marriage they began their domestic life on land in Colona township belonging to his father. Subsequently Chauncey Washburn purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Western township, improved it and lived thereon for a few years, after which he sold the place and bought another one hundred and sixty acres on section 1, and spent the remainder of his days there. He also bought a quarter section of land in Colona township, adjoining some which he inherited from his father, so that his possessions in that township aggregated two hundred twelve and a half acres. He was practical and progressive in his farm work, accomplishing excellent results by his earnest purpose and unfaltering diligence. In later years his friends, and especially the young people, delighted in hearing him relate incidents and stories of the pioneer days, for he had intimate knowledge of early events and keen recollection of the conditions of life which were here found in the period of his boyhood. His political allegiance was given to the democracy but he was never an office seeker. His death occurred in Western township, December 14, 1907, and his remains were interred in Western cemetery. He had for twelve years survived his wife, who passed away April 20, 1895. They were the parents of eight children: Ida, now the wife of Robert McLees, a farmer of Western township, by whom she has two children; Charlotte, the wife of William Durmann, an agriculturist of Colona township, by whom she has two children; George of this review; Otis, formerly a teacher in the Northwestern Normal at Geneseo, but now a stenographer of Chicago, where he lives with his wife, formerly Miss Minnie Dice; Edward, who wedded Mary Grier and lives on a farm in Colona township; Jane, who makes her home in Colona township with her sister; Frank, who died at the age of three years; and Emma, the wife of Norris Keel, living in Western township.

As a boy George Washburn spent his days on his father's farm and benefited by such instruction as the district schools afforded. He afterward enjoyed the benefits of a course in the Northwestern Normal School at Geneseo, where he pursued his studies one winter. After attaining his majority he rented land of his father for one year and then went to Thomas county, Kansas, where he took up government land, spending almost two years in that district, after which he abandoned the place and returned to his native county. While in the west he also worked on the Rock Island Railroad. On his return to Henry county he again rented land from his father, continuing to cultivate it until 1893, when with the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy he was at length enabled to purchase eighty acres of his present farm at fifty-five dollars per acre. In the spring of 1906 his dwelling was destroyed by fire, but with characteristic energy he rebuilt it in the same year. He now has modern improvements upon the place and the farm is a well developed property, giving evidence in its highly tilled fields of the care and labor which the owner bestows upon it.

On the 24th of September, 1890, Mr. Washburn was united in marriage in Geneseo to Miss Lizzie Kerwin, of Colona township. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn now have three children. Grace, born in Western township, spent three years in the high school at Geneseo and is now a student in Brown's Business College at Davenport, Iowa. Thomas, who was born in Western township, has completed the district school course and has also spent some time in Brown's Busi-

ness College. Marie, born in Western township, is now a ninth grade pupil in the country school.

Mr. Washburn gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but has never been an office seeker. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp at Orion and is interested in progressive public measures but finds it necessary to devote the greater part of his time and attention to his business interests. He is now numbered among the leading farmers of the community and, moreover, is known as an honored representative of one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families of the county.

---

### JOHN ROBERT HANNA.

John Robert Hanna, who is overseer of the ten miles of the Illinois and Mississippi canal, from forty-three to fifty-three, and whose home is one and a half miles north of Geneseo, was born in the township of that name, February 10, 1854. His parents, Peter and Mary J. (Cherry) Hanna, were residents of the city of Geneseo where the father carried on a large trade in horses. There our subject grew to manhood, receiving a fair education in the public schools. At the age of sixteen he began work on a farm in Geneseo township and then went to Iowa, where he spent two years, as he had an interest in a threshing outfit which was operated there. Disposing of his property in that state he returned to Geneseo and engaged with his father in the horse business, but the risks attached to the work discouraged his pursuit of it and in 1883 he joined the police force of Geneseo, on which he served for seventeen years, or until in 1901, when he became foreman, in the employ of the United States government, on the canal that was then being constructed. He was given the supervision of some of the buildings and of some of the culverts and locks and of the excavation for miles along the route of the waterway and then when the actual construction was completed, in recognition of the value of his services, he was made overseer of the ten miles before mentioned.

In Geneseo, May 10, 1873, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hanna and Miss Sarah E. Morrow, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was but two years of age when her father, Isaac Morrow, came to Illinois. He was one of seven brothers who came to Henry county among the early pioneers and swelled the number of her valiant sons who joined the Union army during the Civil war. Two of his brothers died in the service, but Mr. Morrow was spared to his family. His wife was Miss Jane J. McCracken in her maidenhood. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna have had nine children. John Otis, who lives in Freeport, Illinois, married Miss Lydia Rose and they have four children. Howard died in childhood. Daisy Pearl is the wife of Lenas Odstrom, a photographer of Geneseo, and they have one child. Maude E. married Albert W. Krueger, who is a lock tender under Mr. Hanna. Bud H. is assisant locktender under his father. Robert Ray died in childhood. Emory C. is at home with his

parents. The two youngest children, Fred R. and Hobart Garrett, are also at home.

Mr. Hanna has always given his support unswervingly to the republican party for whose candidate in 1876, Rutherford B. Hayes, he cast his first presidential ballot. With his wife he is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while fraternally he is a thirty-second-degree Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias. In the former organization he has become a Noble of the Mystic Shrine and has filled various offices. A man who gives his whole attention to fulfilling his duties, he has won the confidence of his employers and of the citizens to whom indirectly he owes his time and efforts.

---

#### WILLIAM DANIEL HOHMANN, PH. G., M. D.

Dr. William Daniel Hohmann, president of the Kewanee board of health, who is at present at the head of the medical staff of St. Francis Hospital of this city, where he has been successfully engaged in the active practice of medicine since the fall of 1891, was born in Cassel, Germany, September 18, 1867. He is a son of William M. and Sophia (Volkmar) Hohmann, also natives of Germany, where they spent their entire lives. Most of his ancestors engaged in manufacturing or mercantile pursuits in the fatherland, although John Hohmann, his paternal grandfather, served in the German army during the Napoleonic wars and, during the latter part of his military career, was superintendent of the military prison at Cassel, Germany, where his death occurred in 1868. William M. Hohmann, the father of the Doctor, was a machinist by occupation, having followed that vocation throughout his entire life, his services for a greater part of that time having been for the government. During the Franco-Prussian war he had charge of the government round-house at Fulda, Germany, where his death occurred in 1872, while his wife passed away at Cassel, August 9, 1894.

William D. Hohmann acquired his education for the most part in his native land, having obtained an excellent knowledge of the English language in Hersfeld, Germany, prior to his emigration to the United States. Wishing to try his fortune in America, he crossed the Atlantic alone when he was sixteen years of age. He took up his residence in the east, having secured a position in a drug store in Baltimore, Maryland, working in that city for five years or until 1887. In September, 1885, however, he entered the Maryland College of Pharmacy, at the same time continuing his connection with the drug store, and was graduated from that institution in 1887. In the fall of the same year he entered the Baltimore Medical College and received the degree of M. D. on the 15th of April, 1890, having spent the last eight months in the Maryland General Hospital, as resident physician and student. He then engaged in the practice of medicine in Baltimore until the fall of 1891, when he came to Illinois, opening an office in Kewanee, since which time he has been successfully practicing in this city with the exception of the time he has spent in further study in New York and Germany. In 1895 Dr. Hohmann spent some time in his native land, taking a post-graduate course in hospital work in Berlin under most eminent physicians of

that place, and later, in 1904, he took up post-graduate work along the same line in New York city.

In June, 1899, Dr. Hohmann was united in marriage to Miss Anna Frederickson, of Kewanee, and they have become the parents of two children, William Daniel, Jr., and Phillip Frederick.

Dr. Hohmann is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Kewanee Club, while in professional lines, his membership relations extend to the Kewanee Physicians Club, in which he has held the office of secretary; the Galva District Medical Society; the Henry County Medical Society, of which he is now the president; the Illinois State Medical Society; and the American Medical Association. He is now serving on the Kewanee milk and dairy commission and is president of the board of health. Dr. Hohmann is an ambitious student, keeping in touch with the advancement and progress made in his profession, not only through his membership in the different medical societies, but also through extensive reading and investigation into the best scientific methods in use by the physicians of the present day.

---

#### WILLIAM L. PAINTER.

William L. Painter, who owns a large farm in Phenix township, is descended from one of the first nine settlers of Henry county. His father, William Painter, was born in Pennsylvania in 1820 and when a young man went to Ohio, and after a time came to Illinois, making the whole journey in a covered wagon. Here he took up a government claim and established his home and family, his house having been one of the first built in this county. He lived to see the sparsely settled district teem with people and blossom with farms, and he aided in its development, for he entered into the spirit of the little colony, participated in their government, and held all of the township offices. When the republican party was organized in this state he gave to it his political allegiance and took part in the interesting discussions that were carried on in this county preceding the Civil war. He died in 1900 and was buried in Oakwood cemetery, where his second wife was also laid to rest, when on July 27, 1909, her life was brought to its close. She bore the maiden name of Jennie Ickers and was born in Ohio in 1845. William L. is the only child of that union. For his first wife, the father married Eliza Reicherd, also a native of Ohio, and to them were born four children who are still living, namely: Anna, who became the wife of Wellington March and lives in Vandalia, Illinois; Henrietta married John Scanlan and lives in Phenix township, north of her brother William L.; Louisa is the wife of Frank Cherry, and lives in Geneseo; and G. L. lives in Horton, Kansas.

In the house in which he now lives William L. Painter was born October 25, 1883. He began his studies in the little district school and later completed his education in the grade schools of Geneseo. Until seventeen years of age he stayed at home and worked with his father and then sought employment elsewhere, at the same time continuing his lessons. When he attained his majority he took possession of his mother's place, which he either tilled himself or rented

to others. This, upon the death of his father, came into his exclusive possession, with the understanding that he should yearly pay to his mother a certain fixed sum. The farm consists of two hundred and forty acres altogether, one hundred and eighty acres lying on section 27, Phenix township, and sixty acres being situated on section 22. On it he has pursued general farming and has engaged somewhat in the raising of stock for market. An earnest worker and faithful, there would seem to be a bright future opening before him, and there is before him the example of his father who had the courage to brave the hardships of the frontiers.

On the 5th of December, 1907, Mr. Painter married Miss Beulah Fones, who was born in Moline, Illinois, February 25, 1884, and is a daughter of Millard and Ellen (Neisweinder) Fones. The father was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1852, and came to Illinois when a very young boy. He was engaged in teaming and now lives in Geneseo. His wife, who was born in Henry county in 1861, passed away in 1886, survived by two children: Edward, who lives in Geneseo; and Beulah, now Mrs. Painter. Mr. and Mrs. Painter have two children: Gertrude Ellen, who was born December 2, 1907; and an infant.

Politically Mr. Painter is a republican, the party which fought for the preservation of the Union almost half a century ago. In this struggle one of his uncles, John Painter, and two of his wife's uncles, Wesley and Samuel Neisweinder, participated so that he feels singularly bound to support its candidate.

---

### LOUIS OBERG.

Louis Oberg, a farmer of Henry county, living on section 20, Galva township, was born in Gestricksland, Sweden, September 29, 1849, a son of Jones and Kate (Johnson) Oberg, both natives of Sweden. The paternal and maternal grandparents were also of Swedish birth, and never left their native land, the former living to an advanced age and when they died leaving three children: Louis, Jones and a daughter. Jones Oberg followed farming in the land of his nativity and there died in 1884, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife survived him but a few years and like her husband died in the Lutheran faith, the creed they had professed during their lifetime.

Louis Oberg was reared at home on the farm and received a limited education from the country schools of his native land. In 1875 he came to America and made his way west until he arrived in Galva. He went to work first on a farm by the month and then removed to Moline, where he remained two years. Again he took up farm work at the end of that period, but only for a short time, for he went to Chicago, which was his home for six years. While he remained in that city he was employed for the most part in a furniture factory. In 1884 he removed to Bishop Hill, where he engaged in farming for himself on rented land. Five years later he came to Galva township and, after farming for a year on rented land, bought his present tract of one hundred and sixty acres. There were no buildings on that farm when Mr. Oberg obtained possession of it. Now a good and substantial house has been erected, barns and other necessary build-

ings. The land, too, has been cultivated according to the best methods and yields a generous harvest.

On the 13th of November, 1879, at Chicago, Mr. Oberg was united in marriage to Miss Kate Peterson, a daughter of Peter and Christine (Anderson) Peterson. The parents died in Sweden, the land of their birth, at an advanced age. Of their family of eight children, three sons and five daughters, five are still living: Eric; Kate, now Mrs. Oberg; Andrew; Anna, the wife of Emil Wahlgren; and Betsey. Mrs. Oberg was born in Westmanland, Sweden, and came alone to America in 1869. She took up her residence at Bishop Hill, Illinois, with an old neighbor from her Swedish home. From there she went to Galesburg and later to Chicago, where she lived for thirteen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Oberg have been born four children: Jennie Elizabeth, who died at the age of fifteen months; Esther Christina and Edward Theodore, who live at home; and August Albin, who died at the age of three years and six months. Our subject has one brother and two sisters living: John Oberg, of Galva; and the two sisters in Sweden.

In political matters Mr. Oberg gives his support to the republican party, as it represents what he believes to be the best policy of general government, and although he has not been active in its councils or conventions he has served several terms as road commissioner and is filling out his fourth term as school trustee. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Grain Elevators of Galva and Nekoma, of which he is one of the directors.

---

### CHARLES E. CHASE.

Charles E. Chase belongs to that class of representative American citizens who are seeking their fortunes in agricultural lines and through their well directed efforts are meeting with most gratifying success. He was born in Jacksonville, Vermont, on the 17th of January, 1844, a son of Merrick and Sarah Maria (Brigham) Chase. The father, a native of Douglas, Massachusetts, was the son of Benjamin and Sarah (Sprague) Chase, who went to Vermont when he was a small child. There Benjamin Chase owned and operated a farm, at the same time following the shoemaker's business. Merrick Chase was reared upon the home farm and early in life learned the trade of clothier, in which he had to card his own wool, and he followed that occupation for some time in Jacksonville, Vermont, where he resided in a home built at the end of a mill. Later, however, he was forced by the mills to abandon that line of activity and he became the proprietor of a hotel and also served as deputy sheriff for a number of years. In the latter part of the '50s he took his family to Washington county, New York, where the home was maintained for many years, and subsequently he came to Henry county, Illinois, where his remaining days were spent. He was an old time abolitionist and later became a stalwart supporter of the republican party.

Charles E. Chase was a youth of fourteen years when his parents removed to Washington county, New York, and his education, which had been begun in the Vermont schools, was completed in the Empire state. He continued to make his

home under the parental roof until nineteen years of age, when his father gave him his time and he was engaged by the month as a farm hand until twenty-five years of age, when he came to Henry county, arriving in Orion on the 12th of March, 1869. He had an uncle, Francis Brigham, who had located in Western township several years before. He was employed at farming by the month for about four years, and in the meantime, in 1873, his parents had come to Henry county, where the father purchased the farm upon which our subject now resides. The father continued to make his home on that farm until the time of his death, the son operating land in the capacity of renter for a number of years.

On the 26th of February, 1874, Mr. Chase returned to Vermont and was there united in marriage to Miss Sophia H. Farnsworth, who was born and reared near the birthplace of our subject. She is a daughter of Luke W. and Harriett (Brigham) Farnsworth, both natives of Vermont. She had enjoyed the advantages of a good education, and for twelve years resided in Boston, teaching school for a number of years. After his marriage Mr. Chase brought his bride back to Henry county and they began their domestic life upon the farm which is now their place of residence. It consists of one hundred acres on section 29, Western township, for which he paid sixty dollars per acre, and he also has become the owner of forty acres located on section 33. The place has become a very highly cultivated property, its excellent condition being due to the efforts and labor of his father, himself and also his son. They have instituted many improvements and in 1909 erected a new barn which is large and substantial in proportions and modern in construction, while the other buildings upon the place are all good and have been built by members of the family. Mr. Chase has divided his time between his general farming and stock-raising interests, feeding and shipping stock annually. He enjoys a substantial income from the fact that both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving most profitable. He has made a close study of agriculture, is methodical, systematic, progressive and up-to-date in his methods, so that he is numbered among the substantial and successful farmers of his section of the county.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Chase has been blessed with one child, Arthur F., who was born on the 1st of March, 1879. After completing the course of study at the Orion public school he attended Knox College at Galesburg, from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. He then taught in a country school for one year and was principal of the high school at Castleton, Stark county, for two years. His identification with the educational interests was a source of benefit to the communities in which he labored, for he proved himself a most competent and able instructor, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. On the 20th of August, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Etta Love, a daughter of James and Anna (Beatty) Love. Since his marriage he has made his home with his parents and has assumed the active management of the home farm. He is making a specialty of raising pure bred shorthorn Durham cattle and Poland China hogs, and in this connection is meeting with most gratifying success. He is a young man who is well known throughout the community in which he has spent his entire life, and he has gained many friends who entertain for him high regard and esteem. He is republican in politics, with strong prohibition tendencies, being staunch in his advocacy of the cause of tem-

perance. He is a director in the Western township library, located in Orion, and is interested in all matters which have for their object the material, political, intellectual and moral progress of the community.

Mrs. Charles E. Chase has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church since girlhood, and the son also belongs to that organization, being superintendent of the Sunday school. Charles E. Chase, whose name initiates this review, has long been a member of the Masonic order, having held some of the minor offices, while his wife is a member of the Ladies Aid Society. In politics he gives stalwart support to the republican party, but the honors of office have had no attraction for him as he prefers to devote his entire energies to the conduct of his business affairs. His has been a life of continuous activity which has been crowned with most gratifying success. Although he is now in the evening of life and has given the active management of his business affairs over to his son, he nevertheless remains an active and interested figure in the world's work, the consensus of public opinion according him a foremost place among the valued and representative citizens of Western township.

---

#### EDWARD ARTHUR COMBS.

Edward Arthur Combs, one of the successful agriculturists of this county, who also devotes considerable attention to the raising, feeding and shipping of cattle, was born in the house in which he now lives, in Osco township, October 2, 1871. His father, Andrew Combs, was a native of Ohio and when he came to Illinois purchased the farm on section 23, Osco township, on which his son lives today. His wife was Miss Louise Ringle before her marriage and nobly fulfilled the duties that fell to her share.

On the farm which was his birthplace Edward Arthur Combs has passed the greater part of his life and has tilled its soil from the time that he was able to handle the implements of agriculture. He attended the public schools of the district, and from them obtained substantial education. After leaving school he devoted himself to the work on his father's farm until he was about twenty-three years old, when he married and operated another farm in Osco township, though he continued to live at home. Upon his father's death he inherited one hundred and twenty acres of land and in 1903 purchased eighty additional acres, which brings his holdings up to two hundred acres, the extent of his present farm. At the time he bought the land the price was one hundred and twelve and a half dollars, but now it is worth fully one hundred and seventy-five or two hundred dollars an acre. It is all well improved and is rich, arable land, and also valuable as pasture.

In Gardner, Grundy county, Illinois, on the 6th of February, 1895, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Combs and Miss May Butterfield, whose home was in Scranton, Pennsylvania. She was born in Gardner, September 6, 1871, and was a daughter of Oliver and Lydia (Leach) Butterfield, but as her mother died when she was very young she was sent to an aunt in Scranton and there grew to maturity. In her young womanhood she came to Henry county to visit relatives,

and here met Mr. Combs, who wooed and married her. They have become the parents of four children: Charles Andrew, born May 30, 1896; Josephine Susan, born May 13, 1898; Jessie May, born March 26, 1901; and Edward Pierce, born June 26, 1903.

Mr. Combs is a firm believer in the principles enunciated in the platform of the republican party and ever since he cast his first presidential ballot for Harrison has given his support to its candidates. He has never sought any office, however, though there can be no doubt of the ready and substantial approval with which his aspiration to public distinction would be met by the citizens of his community, for by his success he has proved himself to be steadfast in purpose and honorable in the conduct of his business.

---

### FRED SCHMOLL, SR.

Fred Schmoll, Sr., who for many years was a leading farmer of Osco township, but has now retired from active labor, was born in Helsen, Arolsen, Germany, November 3, 1829, a son of Christian and Catherine (Schaeffer) Schmoll. Until he was fourteen years of age he attended the public schools of his native land and then learned the trade of shoemaker, at which he worked for about five years. He next took up farming in Germany, and in 1858 came to America, bringing his wife and child with him. The family were about seven days in crossing the ocean and landed at New York, coming very soon after to Geneseo, Illinois, where Mr. Schmoll had an acquaintance living. After his arrival in this part of the state he worked for others for a time and then rented land, on which he farmed for about a year. By hard work and economy he was then able to buy thirty acres in Edford township, which was his home for about six years, during which time he put in many substantial improvements. Upon disposing of that place he bought, in 1865, the one hundred and sixty-one acres where he now lives. He paid only twenty-five dollars an acre for it at the time, for it was not improved, and now it is well worth one hundred and fifty dollars an acre, for Mr. Schmoll has built a number of substantial buildings and has cultivated the soil with a care that has enabled it to retain its fertility.

Mr. Schmoll has been married twice. In Germany, November 17, 1853, he wedded Miss Kate Schmoll and to them were born ten children. Fred, the eldest, married Miss Henrietta Frehl and lives in Osco township, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land. Henry married Miss Anna Fircht and also lives in Osco township. William married Miss Amelia Hauberg and resides in Boulder, Colorado. Catherine became the wife of John Temple and lives in Moline, Illinois. Mary is the wife of Ernest Walter and lives in Edford township. Louis married Miss Anna Wildermuth and lives in Cambridge township. George married Mrs. Minnie Harris, nee Schonau, and resides in Rock Island. Theodore married Miss Margaret Vogle and lives in Osco township. Two children died in infancy. Mrs. Schmoll passed away in January, 1897, and on the 23d of June, 1900, Mr. Schmoll married Miss Fredericka Schwerdtle, of Chicago. She was born in Germany, and after coming to this country made her home in Geneseo,

where she became acquainted with Mr. Schmoll. She later went to Chicago, where she remained until within a few weeks of her marriage, when she came to Geneseo to be bridesmaid at the wedding of a friend. On that occasion Mr. Schmoll renewed his acquaintance with her, with the result that he persuaded her to become his wife, and eleven days after she had supported her friend she herself became a bride.

Mr. Schmoll has always given his political support to the democratic party but he has never sought any office within the gift of the people, feeling that his own interests required all of his attention. He attends the services of the German Evangelical Lutheran church in Edford township, which he helped to build, and he has also served as president of the church board.

---

### ROBERT S. WHITE.

Robert S. White, a retired farmer of Woodhull and one of its representative citizens, who has been prominent politically in Henry county for a number of years, was born February 11, 1832, in Lincolnshire, England, a son of James and Rose (Smith) White. The family came to America in 1851, settling in Lake county, Ohio, with the exception of Robert S. White, who remained in Buffalo, where he had secured employment. At that time the family consisted of Mary, Sarah, Maria, Charlotte, Robert S. and Thomas, but the two sons are the only members now living and both reside in Woodhull. In 1856 all of them came to Woodhull and the father engaged in farming in this locality, achieving considerable success. He was a man of strong character and sterling integrity and commanded respect everywhere. His death occurred in 1880, his widow surviving until 1894, and both are buried in Andover.

Robert S. White obtained but a limited education in England and since coming here he has devoted himself to business affairs, securing a well earned competency. All of his money has been made by farming, he now owning three hundred and sixty-six acres of excellent land, as well as a handsome town residence, where he has lived since 1899, when he retired from agricultural pursuits.

On February 22, 1852, Mr. White married Elizabeth Neal, who came to America on the same vessel as the White family, to join her mother who had preceded her, her father having died some years previously. Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. White, namely: Mary E., who married John Atkinson, of Sumner county, Kansas; William G., who lives in Clover township; John R., who resides in Knox county, Illinois; Maria, who married Irich Nelson, of Moline, Illinois; Angeline, who married Isaac C. Snow, of Geneseo; Alice R., who is at home; Ethel I., who married John Logan Stires of Oxford township; Leslie A., who lives in Galesburg; Nellie F., who married John Rogers of Utah, Cambridge township; and Sarah, James and Frank E., all three deceased.

Mr. White is a republican and has been active in the affairs of his party, during the McKinley campaign of 1896 engaging in considerable work for the national committee that was productive of excellent results. He has been road commissioner for years, school trustee for several terms, and school director for

twenty years. All of his children have been well educated and he has been interested in securing good schools for them and for other children of the district. Having been so efficient a public official, the people of his neighborhood have often endeavored to induce Mr. White to run for higher office but in vain as he always declines the honor. Mr. and Mrs. White are consistent members of the Methodist church, of which he is trustee. Some of his children are Methodists and others Presbyterians, and they are all active in church work wherever they are. Mr. White has been closely identified with the agricultural and stock-raising interests of Henry county and no man stands higher in public esteem than he.

---

### FREDERICK STAHL.

The life record of Frederick Stahl is another illustration of the fact that in America where effort is not hampered by caste or class the individual has opportunity to work his way steadily upward and gain the just reward of his labor. Frederick Stahl for many years a respected and honored resident of Henry county was born in Holstein, Germany, January 17, 1841, his parents being Mathew and Anna Stahl, whose family numbered eight children. The father was a laborer in Germany and both he and his wife died in that country, the former when sixty-eight years of age.

Frederick Stahl was reared and educated in the fatherland and followed various pursuits there after he had attained an age sufficient to enable him to start in business life. In 1866, attracted by the favorable reports which he heard concerning America, and her opportunities he came to the new world, settling in Munson township, Henry county, where he worked by the month as a farm hand for a time. He desired, however, that his labors might more definitely benefit himself and therefore began farming on his own account by renting land. After two years spent in that way he was enabled, as the result of his industry and careful expenditure, to purchase eighty acres which he at once began to improve. As he further prospered he added to it a tract of sixty-four acres and upon that farm made his home until 1892, carefully tilling the soil that he might harvest rich crops, for which he found a ready and profitable sale on the market.

On the 3d of September, 1870, Mr. Stahl was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Peterson, a daughter of Gustav and Christine (Anderson) Peterson. Mrs. Stahl was born in Smolan, Sweden, February 1, 1841, and her parents were also natives of that country. Her mother died in Sweden in 1862 and her father married again and with his second wife came to the United States in May, 1869, settling in Geneseo. He continued a resident of this county until his death, which occurred in the winter of 1892 when he had reached the age of seventy-nine years and nine months. His second wife survived him ten years and passed away in April, 1902, at the age of seventy-five years and four months. By the father's first marriage there were two sons and a daughter: Oscar, Otto and Minnie, but the younger son died when sixteen years of age. By the second marriage there were three children who lived to maturity: Sophia, the wife of Olof Johnson;

Hilda; and Mrs. Jennie Peterson. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Stahl was Peter Peterson, a farmer of Sweden, who spent his entire life there. He married Anna Sophia Swanson, who was eighty-two years of age at the time of her demise. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Stahl was Andrew Peterson, a farmer of Sweden, who married Eva Samuelson.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stahl was blessed with four children: Frank Emil, Jennie E., Nellie A. and Mabel A. The eldest married Jennie Durston, by whom he has three children: Marie, Madras and Arlo, and the family home is in Geneseo. The death of Mr. Stahl occurred September 13, 1902, when he was sixty-two years of age and he is still survived by his wife, who is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, to which Mr. Stahl also belonged, guiding his life by its principles.

His political allegiance was given to the republican party and there was no more loyal son of America than Frederick Stahl, notwithstanding the fact that he was born across the water. He was always interested in the welfare and progress of the community and his efforts to promote the public good made him a cooperant factor in many measures that were beneficial to the district.

---

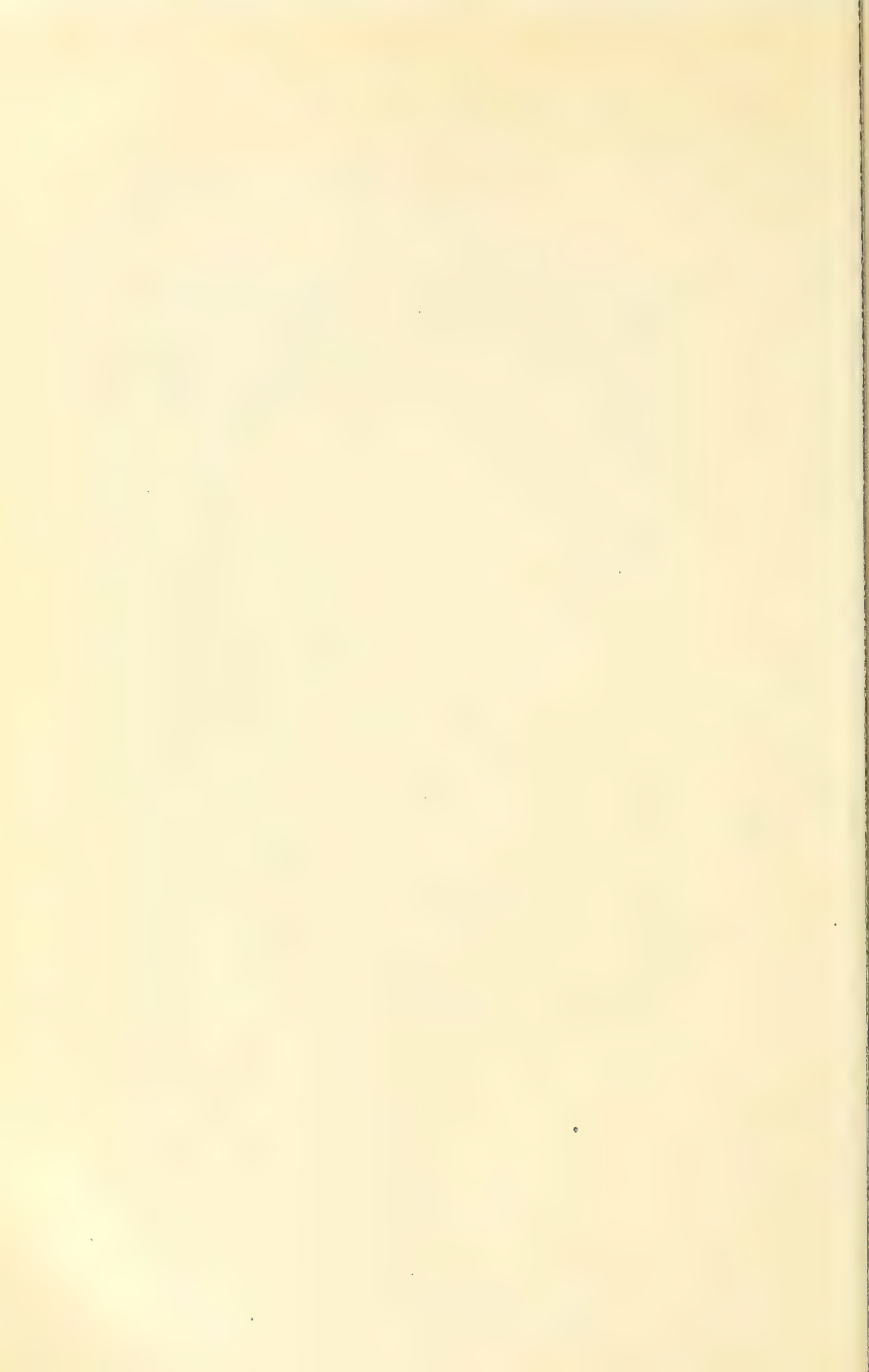
### JACOB FRANK.

Jacob Frank, now deceased, was for many years engaged in the harness business in Geneseo, where he arrived in early manhood. After living for some years in Annawan he removed to Geneseo, where his last days were past. He was born in Germany, May 8, 1829, and in that country was reared and educated but the reports which he had heard concerning America and its advantages proved to him an irresistible attraction and when a young man he crossed the broad Atlantic to the new world. After living for a time in Bucyrus, Ohio, he came to Henry county, Illinois, and settled at Annawan, where he followed his trade of harness making. He was a fine workman and the excellent line of goods which he manufactured secured him a large trade throughout the county. Coming to Geneseo he conducted a large business here, having one of the successful harness-making establishments of the city. He also built a fine home here and was a valued factor in the commercial and social circles of the city until his death.

Mr. Frank was married twice and by his first wife, Mrs. Delia Bowman Frank had five children. Leonard, the eldest, now deceased, married Etta Daily and they had two sons, Sherman J. and William; Alice, the second child of the first marriage, became Mrs. McLaughlin and after the death of her first husband married Dr. Province, of Ottawa, Illinois, while her third husband was Charles Hamilton, of Geneseo. She has one son, Earl. William, the third member of the family, lives in Silvis, Illinois. He married Catharine Selmer, and they had one son, Leonard, and for his second wife he chose Hulda Holke. Minnie is the wife of William Brown, a barber of Chicago, and they have four children. Charles, the youngest child of that marriage, was killed in a runaway accident when thirteen years of age. The wife and mother, Mrs. Delia



JACOB FRANK



Bowman Frank, died in 1880, and on the 4th of December, 1882, Mr. Frank wedded Mrs. Mary Hall, the widow of James Hall and a daughter of James and Mary (Shale) Orr. Her paternal grandfather lived and died in Ireland. He married a Miss McCreery, who also passed away in that country. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Frank also spent his entire life in Ireland where he followed the occupation of farming. Both Mr. and Mrs. James Orr, the parents of Mrs. Frank, were natives of Belfast, Ireland, and on coming to America settled in Philadelphia where Mr. Orr followed the weaver's trade, weaving Irish linen, which he made from flax. He afterward removed to Safe Harbor, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where he lived for several years and subsequently he became one of the early settlers of Henry county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of forty acres lying in Cornwall township. He afterward bought eighty acres and from time to time added to his property until he owned a large tract of land. He died on the old home farm in 1884 at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife passed away two years later at the age of eighty-three. They were the parents of five children: Margaret, who died at the age of four years; Mary, William, James and Eliza, all of whom are living.

Mrs. Frank was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, August 26, 1849, and in early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to James Hall, a native of Belfast, Ireland, who died in 1883. There were two children of that marriage, Margaret, who died when six years of age, and Frank Hall, who is a civil engineer in the employ of the government. After losing her first husband Mrs. Hall became the wife of Jacob Frank and unto this marriage was born one son, Ira Robert, at home. Mr. Frank passed away June 4, 1903, at the age of seventy-four years. For some years prior to his death he was the president of the cemetery association. His business record was always such as won for him respect and regard as well as success, and all who knew him entertained for him warm esteem for his salient qualities were those of honorable, upright manhood. Mrs. Frank still survives her husband and is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of finely improved land in Cornwall township which she inherited from her father and also a beautiful home on College avenue and West Exchange street.

---

### WILLIAM HENRY.

William Henry, to whom fate has vouchsafed honorable retirement as the reward of his persistent and intelligently directed labor in former years, is now living in Wethersfield. He is one of the native sons of Henry county, his birth having occurred in Kewanee, November 24, 1870. His father, George Washington Henry, was born in the town of Moy in the north part of Ireland, June 7, 1835, and was of Scotch parentage. Coming to this country when a young man, he made his way to the south, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil war. He then enlisted in a southern regiment and served for two years in defense of the Confederacy. In 1863 he was married in Mexico to Miss Elizabeth Duncan, a native of Scotland, and they became parents of five children, namely:

Mrs. F. G. Goodrich, of Kewanee; Thomas, who is now living on a farm in Wethersfield township; William, of this review; John B., who makes his home at La Fayette, Knox county, Illinois, where he is engaged in farming; and Anna, the wife of George Humfreville of Kewanee.

In the district schools of Kewanee township William Henry pursued his education. He worked on his father's farm until twenty-two years of age and was afterward employed as a farm hand by the month for a year. He then married and rented a farm of two hundred acres in Burns township, whereon he resided for four years, carefully cultivating the fields. He removed from that place to the Louis Hoppoch farm in Wethersfield township, where he resided for four years, after which he took up his abode upon his mother-in-law's farm of one hundred and twenty acres, residing there for two years. When he had saved sufficient capital as the result of his industry and economy he purchased the Isaac Pyle farm of two hundred and sixty acres in Kewanee township, but did not take possession of it at that time. He rented it for a year but was not satisfied with the way in which his tenant managed it and at the end of that time he began its cultivation himself. For a year he lived there and then sold out, making investment in his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on Wethersfield township, where he lived for three years. On the 20th of January, 1909, he held a sale, disposing of all of his live stock and implements, this being one of the best sales that has ever been held in the locality. He then rented the farm, which he had greatly improved in the meantime. When he purchased the place he erected all the buildings upon it except the house which had recently been constructed. He built new fences, put in tile and otherwise improved the entire farm, making it a valuable property. In February, 1909, he purchased a new residence of ten rooms in Wethersfield, and removing his family to the town immediately took possession and now lives at No. 127 East Church street. Beside his home he owns a lot in the town of Wethersfield and from his farm he derives a substantial annual income.

On the 1st of January, 1893, in Kewanee, Mr. Henry was united in marriage to Miss Ida E. Lehman, a daughter of John and Ernestine Lehman, both of whom were natives of Germany and came to this county in 1856. Her mother was born in Brandenburg, Germany, May 26, 1848, and came to this county with her sister when twenty-two years of age. On the 6th of March, 1870, in the Lutheran church of Kewanee she gave her hand in marriage to John Lehman, Jr., who was born in Germany, December 29, 1820, and was the son of John Lehman, Sr. He came to America in 1856, settling in Burns township, where he lived for forty-one years, becoming well known by all in this vicinity. His death occurred upon his farm in Burns township March 19, 1897, and on the 20th of March his wife, Mrs. Anna (Onart) Lehman, passed away. John Lehman, Jr., was born in Germany, April 14, 1846, and when a lad of ten years came to this country with his parents, living with them on the home farm in Burns township until the war, when he enlisted and served for four years in the federal army. When leaving home he received from his father eighty acres of land, upon which he and his wife lived for five years. He then sold that tract and bought one hundred and twenty acres, which is still owned by Mrs. Lehman and is cared for by her son, William Henry. Mr. Lehman also cultivated his father's farm of

two hundred and forty acres for many years and upon the death of his father he bought out the other heirs, thus becoming owner of the entire homestead, which is now the property of his widow, whose holdings aggregate four hundred and sixty acres. John Lehman, Jr., was a resident of Burns township for forty-five years and was widely known not only in Henry but in adjoining counties. He was prominently identified with the German Evangelical church of Kewanee for many years and took an active part therein, contributing liberally to the support of his church. Mrs. Lehman has always attended the same church. In politics Mr. Lehman was a stanch republican and died on the home farm December 28, 1901, at the age of fifty-five years and is survived by his widow and two daughters: Ida E., the wife of William Henry; and Emma T., the wife of William Charlet, of Burns township, by whom she has one child, Verene, six years of age.

Mr. Henry is a stanch republican where national issues and questions are involved but at local elections votes independently nor does he believe that politics should enter into the consideration of those who exercise the right of franchise but rather that they should give every thought to choosing the best men for the performance of public duties. While living in Wethersfield township he served as school director. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp at Kewanee and attends the German Evangelical church of that city. Working diligently and persistently in former years, he has been quite successful in his business affairs, his prosperity now enabling him to live retired.

---

#### NATHAN E. JOHNSON.

Of that element which contributes materially to the strength and prosperity of Lynn township is Nathan E. Johnson, who was born in that township, his parents being Alexander and Louise (Ericson) Johnson, of Sweden. In 1857, soon after their marriage, they came to the United States and after looking over the country, choose Andover township, this county, as their home. There they rented a farm, where they lived only a short time, for the father, desiring to become a landholder, had upon their removal to Lynn township, purchased a tract of land, which he cultivated with the utmost success. Nine children were born to them, four of whom are now deceased: Andrew W., a resident of Texas; John P., deceased; Huldah E., at home; Frank A., a resident of Galesburg, Illinois; Carl O., deceased; Nathan E., the subject of this sketch; Anna O., at home; and Luther and Martin, both deceased. The parents are still living at an advanced age and they hold a warm place in the affections of the community. Both of them are members of the Lutheran church of Andover, in whose affairs they have always taken an active part. Soon after his naturalization the father became a stanch supporter of the republican party, but while a man of broad interests, he has never enrolled himself among those who are willing to assume the responsibilities of office.

Nathan E. Johnson spent his boyhood and youth amid the wholesome surroundings of his father's homestead, and gained his early education in the township schools. He now has charge of the old home place, a fine tract of land, some

two hundred acres in extent, all under a high state of cultivation. He is a general farmer and stockman and makes a specialty of raising fine draught horses, both Shires and Percheron, having, in fact, the reputation of being the best breeder of horses in Lynn township and commanding the highest prices. Engaged in this business for several years, he has achieved wonderful success and reputation.

Mr. Johnsson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is an intelligent student of public affairs, with a helping hand extended to any measure he believes will prove conducive to the general good. His membership in the Lutheran church of Andover serves as another vehicle for the exercise of those admirable qualities which have won for him the respect and confidence of all.

---

### FRANK V. SAMUELSON.

Frank V. Samuelson, who is engaged in the hardware and farm implement business in Orion, Illinois, was born in Western township, July 14, 1861, and is a son of A. P. and Joanna (Gustafson) Samuelson. The parents were both born in Sweden, the father in 1824, the mother in 1828, and came to the United States in 1854. They settled in Henry county, Illinois, where the father followed farming until 1890, when he retired from active life. For about thirteen years he lived on the old homestead and then in 1903 removed to Orion, where he passed away December 29, 1907. He supported the republican party for he firmly believed in the principles enunciated in its platform. Mrs. Samuelson still survives, making her home in Orion. Ten children were born to the couple, only four of whom are now living. They are Henry, who lives in Kansas; Frank V., of this review; Otto, a retired farmer who lives in Orion; and Hulda, who is the widow of August Johnson and resides in Woodhull, Illinois.

Frank V. Samuelson was reared at home and attended the common schools of the township, and then for seven or eight years worked at home and at odd jobs, earning his tuition and board for a course in college. He spent thirteen weeks at a business college in Davenport, Iowa, but short though the time was he made the best possible use of it and found himself not ill prepared for the affairs of life. He rented a farm from his father until 1895, when he embarked in the farm implement business. After seven years' experience he sold his stock and returned to farming, abandoning that pursuit at the end of two years to travel for a Chicago machinery house. In 1908 he reopened his store in Orion with a complete line of farm implements and hardware, and in January, 1910, removed to the fine double store building he owns on Jackson street. Being of a mechanical turn of mind he has been very successful in the line of work to which he has chosen to devote himself.

On the 20th of March, 1886, Mr. Samuelson was united in marriage to Miss Hilma J. Bergstrom, a daughter of C. J. and Christine Bergstrom, both natives of Sweden. Mrs. Samuelson was also born in that country in 1868 and was thirteen years old when her father came to America to make a home for his family. Two years later they came to Henry county, where Mr. Bergstrom had

procured a farm, on which he lived until his death, which occurred October 26, 1909. His wife is still living and makes her home with her son-in-law, Mr. Samuelson. Mrs. Samuelson was one of a family of five children, the three others now living being Axel, whose home is in Colorado; Fredolf, a Lutheran minister, of Chicago; and Albin, who lives in South Dakota.

To Mr. and Mrs. Samuelson have been born two children. Bert M., born October 29, 1886, for the past three years has attended Augustana College, Rock Island, from which he hopes to graduate in 1910. He may then take a six months' course in any business college he may elect. In the summer, for the past few years, he has taught in the Swedish church school in Ottumwa, Iowa. Cora, born April 6, 1888, is a graduate of the Orion high school and for the past year and a half has been chief clerk in the postoffice in Orion. To add to her other accomplishments she possesses not a little skill as a musician. Of both of his children Mr. Samuelson is pardonably proud, for they are growing to a fine manhood and womanhood and have done credit to the many advantages which he has been able to give them.

In politics Mr. Samuelson is a republican and he served as school clerk in his district from the time he was twenty-two years of age until he left the farm. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen, in all of which he is active and has held numerous offices. His religious allegiance is given to the Lutheran church, in which he has been prominent. He really started the battle of life at the age of thirteen, with nothing to his credit but a capacity and willingness to work, but he now is in the enjoyment of many comforts. He owns a farm of one hundred and forty acres to the east of Orion and a fine home on Bank street, which he built in 1903. It is modern and handsome, both within and without, bespeaking the broad-mindedness and liberal culture of its inmates. His success, honestly won, has brought with it the respect and good will of his friends and neighbors.

---

#### NELS F. ANDERSON.

Nels F. Anderson, a leading and successful attorney of Henry county, has practiced his profession in Kewanee since 1904 and prior to that time was located at Galva for a period of fourteen years. His birth occurred in the southern part of Sweden on the 11th of February, 1858, his parents being Nels and Maria (Kolokowski) Anderson, likewise natives of that country. The father was a well educated man and while a resident of Sweden was actively engaged in business as a lumber merchant. In 1871 he brought his family to the new world, taking up his abode in Greene, Iowa, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and devoted the remainder of his life to agricultural pursuits. He did not come to this country empty-handed but was well situated financially and won a gratifying measure of prosperity in his undertakings. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church, to the support of which he contributed liberally of his time and means. His demise occurred in 1881 and that of his wife in 1894. They reared a family of

eight children, namely: Nels F., of this review; Christine, who passed away in 1904; Andrew W., a traveling salesman, who now maintains his residence at Portland, Oregon; F. E., a graduate of Ann Arbor University and now city attorney of Everett, Washington; Otto, also a graduate of Ann Arbor University and a dentist of Stillwater, Minnesota; Theodore, a graduate of the Iowa University and now a resident of Everett, Washington; Hannah, an artist of Chicago, who pursued a literary course at the Chicago University and was graduated from that institution; and Cornelius, a medical practitioner of Willow Springs, North Dakota.

Nels F. Anderson obtained his early education in a Latin school of Sweden. He was a lad of thirteen when the family emigrated to the United States and remained under the parental roof until he had completed his education. When sixteen years of age he began teaching school and successfully followed that profession until he entered Knox College in 1877, pursuing a classical course. He was graduated from that institution in 1882 and had the honor of being salutatorian of his class. Having determined upon the legal profession as a life work, he took a preparatory course at the law school of the Union College of Law in Chicago, where he was a student for one year, and during the following eighteen months he read law with Thomas E. Milchrist, at one time state senator and now United States attorney for northern Illinois. After his admission to the bar in 1886 he remained in Chicago until the following year, and then went to Salina, Kansas, where he opened an office and engaged in the practice of his profession for three years. In 1890 he came to Galva, Henry county, Illinois, where he remained as an able and prominent representative of his profession for a period of fourteen years or until 1904, since which time he has maintained his office in Kewanee. He has accumulated a very complete and valuable law library and has built up a large and lucrative practice which is constantly growing. His success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his capabilities in this line. He is a strong advocate with the jury, and concise in his appeals before the court. Much of the success which has attended him in his professional career is undoubtedly due to the fact that in no instance will he permit himself to go into court with a case unless he has absolute confidence in the justice of his client's cause. Basing his efforts on this principle, from which there are far too many lapses in professional ranks, it naturally follows that he seldom loses a case in whose support he is enlisted.

On the 25th of December, 1888, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss May Winn Williams, who was born in Henry, Illinois, in 1863, her parents being William Potter and Petronella (Hoagland) Williams. The father, a farmer by occupation, passed away in February, 1907, while the mother's demise occurred in 1894. Their children were six in number, as follows: Kate, who is the wife of D. W. Esmond, an attorney of Newburgh, New York; James A., a retired agriculturist living in Henry, Illinois; Bessie, who is the wife of S. E. Blood and lives in Joliet, Illinois; Annette, the wife of John Wiley, of Utica, New York; Mrs. Anderson; and Carrie, who gave her hand in marriage to W. D. Patty, a banker of Oneida, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of four children, namely: Leland Hurd, born in 1891; Sumner Bigelow, 1895; Richard Stanley, 1897; and Nelson Paul, 1899.

Since 1890 Mr. Anderson has been identified with the democratic party and has most creditably and acceptably served as village attorney for eight years. He was a member of the school board during the erection of the new school building in Galva and served on the building committee. He has always been a strong advocate of those enterprises which he believed would benefit his adopted town and county and is recognized as a valued citizen of the community. In 1897 he was the democratic candidate for circuit judge and his name has also appeared on the party ticket for other county offices. When Judge Bigelow was elevated to the appellate bench he had Mr. Anderson appointed as his clerk or assistant, believing him to be best qualified for the duties of that position. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons, both of Galva. He contributes to the support of the Congregational church, of which his wife is a consistent and faithful member. In his professional career he has been actuated by a laudable ambition and in all of his work has displayed the closest conformity to a high standard of professional ethics.

---

#### RICHARD C. HANLON.

Richard C. Hanlon, proprietor of Clover Dell Stock and Grain Farm in Clover township, was born January 13, 1858, in Peoria, Illinois, a son of Thomas and Ellen (Murphy) Hanlon. The father was born in County Limerick, Ireland, while the mother was born in County Clare, and they were married in their native land, three children being born to them before they came to America in 1847. After their settlement here eleven more children were added to the family. They landed in New York, whence they came direct to Chicago by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo and the rest of the way on the lakes. At Chicago they took a wagon to Peoria and there the father found employment as a mason. He died in August, 1879, and his widow in May, 1905, both being interred in Kickapoo cemetery near Peoria. Of their family of fourteen children, only three now survive, two sons and a daughter, namely: Margaret, who is now Mrs. John Prentiss, of Howard, Kansas; Jeremiah B., a resident of Galva, Illinois; and Richard C., the subject of this review.

Until he was twelve years old Richard C. Hanlon was allowed to attend school but then was forced to leave in order to earn his living. However, being of a studious disposition, he has obtained a liberal education through observation and personal application. In 1870, when but twelve years old, he went to Coffeyville, Kansas, where he became a cowboy, working with the cattlemen upon the ranges for four years. A longing for home then seizing him, he returned to Peoria, making the trip on his pony and sleeping out of doors wrapped in his blanket. Arriving home, he was variously employed until he was twenty-one years of age, when he embarked in the restaurant business in Knoxville, Illinois, and continued it for about a year. He was then married and began to farm and raise stock in Clover township, Henry county, this having been his home ever since with the exception of one year (1893) which was spent in California. He then returned to Clover township and resumed his farming operations. His

place is known as the Clover Dell Stock and Grain Farm, containing one hundred and seventy-five acres of magnificent farming land, well suited for raising both stock and grain. Mr. Hanlon is a practical farmer, employing the best and most modern methods in his work and making a specialty of Reed's Yellow Dent corn and of pure seed corn, for which he has gained a wide reputation, selling his product to corn growers all over the country. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Hanlon is connected with the Mutual Telephone Company of which he was one of the organizers and for some time has been president of the Telephone Switchboard Association. He is also a director and solicitor of the Cambridge Mutual County Fire Insurance Company of Henry county, which has been in existence since 1888; is also a director and treasurer of the Galva Grain & Elevator Company, with elevators at Galva and Nekoma, and he takes an active part in the management of all these concerns.

A republican in politics, Mr. Hanlon is active in his support of the party and has rendered it and his district good service as a member of the school board for twenty-five years. He is a member of Galva Grange, No. 1591, Patrons of Husbandry, and has been master of the grange and filled all the other offices. He is also a member of the Fraternal Tribune and takes a deep interest in the work of the Ontario Christian church and its Sunday school, of which his wife is a member.

On October 13, 1879, Mr. Hanlon was married to Augusta A. Brown, a daughter of Jeremiah J. and Catherine (Protsman) Brown, residents of Weller township at that time, but in the fall of 1893 they went further west and have since lived in Oregon and California. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are still living, he being eighty years and she seventy-five years old and both are enjoying excellent health. Mr. and Mrs. Hanlon have had four children, as follows: Jessie, who married Fred M. Lindholm, of Galva, Illinois; Frank J., who is married and farming in Clover township; and Edward A. and Mildred A., who are at home.

Mr. Hanlon has not only made a material success of his life but he has demonstrated that it is possible to influence his community for good while attending to his own affairs. Although he secured but an elementary education he supplemented it with experience and is one of the well informed men of Henry county.

---

### DANIEL C. KELEHER.

Daniel C. Keleher, who operates his father's farm of four hundred acres, located on section 14, Western township, was born on this place, August 21, 1870, a son of Daniel L. and Ellen (Currin) Keleher. The father was identified with agricultural interests in Henry county throughout a long period but he and his wife are now living retired in Orion.

Daniel C. Keleher was reared on the home farm and began his studies in the district schools, this knowledge being supplemented by a course in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, from which he was graduated in the class of 1892. After completing his studies he returned to the home farm and resumed work in this connection, assisting his father during the succeeding six years. He was then

married and since that time has operated the farm on his own account. This tract embraces four hundred acres, so that he carries on business on a large scale. He is engaged in general farming and also raises and feeds stock on an extensive scale.

It was on the 28th of December, 1898, in Moline, Illinois, that Mr. Keleher wedded Miss Abigail Purse, who was born in Western township, a daughter of Robert and Margaret (Montgomery) Purse. Mrs. Keleher was educated in Shurtleff College near St. Louis, Missouri, and engaged in teaching for several years prior to her marriage. She is the mother of one son, Percy, born in Western township, on the 3d of December, 1899.

Mr. Keleher is a strong temperance man, voting for the men and measures or prohibition. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church, in which he has filled various offices, while socially they are identified with the Farmers Social Club. Having spent their entire lives in Western township, they are well known, and have a large circle of warm friends.

---

#### CHARLES F. SCHROEDER.

Charles F. Schroeder, one of the native farmers and stockmen of Edford township, was born June 21, 1870, and is a son of G. H. and W. C. (Weigand) Schroeder, who were for many years members of the agricultural community here. On the 27th of January, 1897, he wedded Miss Florence B. Whiteline, who was born in Morristown, Osco township, Henry county, November 18, 1871, and whose parents are the late J. J. and Christine (Rapp) Whiteline. Reared to the life of a farmer, Mr. Schroeder has devoted all his energies to that line of work with a success that has made possible the acquirement of some valuable land. He pursues general farming and has also engaged in the raising and feeding of stock.

---

#### WILLIAM C. STICKNEY.

To the financiers of every community are due in large measure the financial standing of the locality and its people, for through them are all transactions influenced and commercial ratings based. William C. Stickney, of Woodhull, is one of the ablest of Henry county bankers. He was born in Brighton, Massachusetts, September 6, 1846, a son of Henry Stickney, who was born in Grafton, Vermont, January 29, 1807. On June 2, 1837, the father married Mary Ann Wood, of Ridge, New Hampshire. For a number of years he resided at Cambridgeport, where he engaged in a grain business, and for several years he was a commission merchant at Nos. 8 and 9, Chatham Row, Boston, in partnership with his brother Isaac Stickney.

In 1853 Henry Stickney brought his family to Woodhull, Illinois, where he had purchased large tracts of land, he and his brother Isaac owning about two thousand acres. Unfortunately, he was accidentally killed November 16, 1866,

his widow surviving him until February, 1888, when she too passed away, and both were interred in the beautiful Woodhull cemetery. He left his impress upon Woodhull and the county and is still remembered as one of the representative men of his time. He and his wife had the following five children: Henry born November 7, 1838, died April 25, 1881; Alfred born July 3, 1840, is a large landowner and capitalist of Woodhull; Idalia, born March 25, 1842, died April 12, 1844; William Curtis is the subject of this review; and Carrie Wood, born October 6, 1856, is now Mrs. Henry W. Crain, of Knox county.

Reared on his father's farm, William C. Stickney helped about the place and attended the public schools of Woodhull as well as Knox College at Galesburg. After the death of his father, in conjunction with his two older brothers, he engaged in operating the old homestead, which is still in the family, and occupied by William W. Stickney, a son of our subject, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Here he lived continuously until May 26, 1892, when he removed to Woodhull, which has since been his home. Mr. Stickney has met with unusual success and owns in addition to the homestead of three hundred and twenty acres, six hundred and forty acres in Alberta, Canada, and considerable real estate in Woodhull. He and Robert L. Woods own the Farmers Bank of Woodhull, which was the first bank organized in the city and the only one until 1909. His association with this bank commenced in 1880, and his efforts have built it up until it is one of the most reliable in Henry county. It is thoroughly equipped with vaults, time locks and screw lock safes, as complete as any to be found in the large cities and the business done by it, which is of a general banking character, is very large. Mr. Stickney is also connected with the Peoples Bank, which was organized in December, 1908. This is also a private bank and second only to the Farmers bank, and it too is thoroughly modern. Mr. Stickney is one of the wealthiest men of Henry county and holds the full confidence of all who know him.

He was married April 13, 1870, to Ida A. Clarke, a daughter of Janson and Grace (Stowe) Clarke, of Woodhull, who came originally from Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Stickney had four children, namely: William W., who has been already mentioned; Grace M., who married Walter A. Davis, of Hale, Missouri; Etta C., who died in infancy; and Henry C., who is at home. The wife and mother died April 30, 1891. On January 21, 1903, Mr. Stickney was again married, his second union being with Viola Ridenour, a daughter of Granville J. and Sarah (Green) Ridenour. Mrs. Stickney was born in Seneca, Kansas, although her family came from Ohio. Mr. Ridenour was a farmer who went to Kansas from Ohio at an early day but before his demise in 1907, the family removed to Phoenix, Arizona. Mrs. Ridenour died ten years before her husband. Mrs. Stickney was the first graduate from the Galesburg Training School for Nurses in 1896, her previous education having been obtained in the common and high schools of Seneca, Kansas. She is an artist of more than ordinary ability, painting exquisitely on china and carving in wood with considerable skill. She is one of a family of thirteen children, all of whom are now living. For several years she was a nurse in Galesburg before her marriage and she is one of the most accomplished ladies in Woodhull, where she has gathered about her a circle of appreciative friends.

Mr. Stickney is a republican and has been called upon to fill a number of important offices within the gift of his party. In 1894 he was elected to the thirty-ninth general assembly from Henry county and assisted in passing some important legislation. He has been a delegate to numerous district, county and state conventions and was a member from the county of the first board of review appointed after the enacting of the law governing it. He is a man of strong purpose and determined character and never fails to accomplish whatever he undertakes.

---

### WILLIS E. ROBERTS.

Willis E. Roberts, one of the prosperous farmers and extensive stock breeders of Phenix township, was born on section 14—the same section on which he now lives,—September 29, 1859, and is a son of John J. and Nancy (McHenry) Roberts. On both sides of the family he is descended from pioneer settlers of this county. His maternal grandparents, George and Lucinda (Council) McHenry, came from White county to Henry county in 1837, when there were but two families here and but one house in Rock Island. Chicago was their nearest market and the long journey was made by team. In Phenix township the McHenrys preempted about six hundred acres of land, most of which has remained in the family to this day and some of which Mr. Roberts now owns. His paternal grandparents, John and Susannah (Gates) Roberts, came to Henry county in 1839, and like the McHenrys preempted land. Here they made their home for the rest of their lives. John J. Roberts and Miss Nancy McHenry were married in Phenix township, where as farming people they continued to reside throughout life. They and Mrs. George Roberts died within fourteen days of one another in 1890. The parents of our subject were buried in McHenry cemetery in Phenix township, but the grandparents were buried in the cemetery in Loraine township. Two sons were born to John J. Roberts and his wife: William E., the subject of this sketch; and Wilbur L., also a resident of Phenix township.

William E. Roberts received a fair education in the country schools. Reared on the farm, he worked upon it when not busy with his lessons and remained with his father even after his marriage, until he was about twenty-six years old. In 1885 he purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land from his maternal grandfather and entered upon his career as an agriculturist. He paid twenty-four and a half dollars an acre for the land, cleared the timber from a large part of it and made all the improvements. He threw himself heart and soul into his work and in a few years had not only made this farm a paying investment but was able to buy land in other places. He now owns one hundred and ten acres on section 14, Phenix township, three hundred and twenty acres in Phillips county, Kansas, and some residence property in Geneseo. He lives upon the land first mentioned and there in addition to general farming raises some fine stock of pure breed—Oxford Down sheep, Poland China hogs and Guernsey cattle.

On the 1st of November, 1883, Mr. Roberts was united in marriage to Miss Rettie E. McGinley, of Phenix township, a daughter of John and Charlotte

(Aldrich) McGinley. Politically Mr. Roberts is a republican and has taken an active part in matters of local interest and in political affairs, for he has served as school trustee and as trustee of the cemetery and has been a delegate to several of the party conventions, notably that at which Governor Deneen was nominated. He has made many stanch friends among his fraternal brothers of camp No. 40, M. W. A., whose meetings he attends by way of social diversion and relaxation. A successful farmer and a careful breeder he has won substantial success. More than that he enjoys the respect of those who have come in contact with him and have found him a man of sound principles.

---

#### FRANK E. GOOD.

Frank E. Good, one of the substantial and representative farmers of Henry county, is a man who has for years been convinced of the importance of agricultural life and the future this locality offers to the modern farmer. He was born east of Kewanee, December 20, 1860, and has spent his life in this locality. After being educated in the district school and those of Kewanee, he taught school during the winter for four years from the time he was twenty, and then rented a farm for twelve years. By this time he had saved sufficient money to buy one hundred and eight acres of land, which was the beginning of his homestead. To this he added one hundred and sixty acres more in 1905 and now has one of the best farms in Kewanee township. In addition to his farming property he is interested in the Kewanee National bank.

On June 7, 1887, Mr. Good married Miss Franc Porter, a daughter of James and Amanda Porter, a complete sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. Three children have been born of this marriage: Leslie Porter, Glenn Samuel and Frank Allen James.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Good has been very active in the work of the republican party and has often been called upon to represent it upon the ticket and for three years he has served as assessor, for the past quarter of a century he has been school director, and has also been road overseer. In each office Mr. Good has always striven to do his full duty and that he has succeeded is proven by his being reelected so often. Fraternally he is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men. A hard working man, he has succeeded in his farming and takes a pride in his premises and the results of his efforts. He belongs to one of the old families here and is a worthy representative of it.

---

#### EDGAR C. LOVE.

Energy, industry and perseverance have characterized the efforts of Edgar C. Love, an enterprising and progressive young farmer of Western township, his native township, his birth occurring in Orion in 1882. His parents, William and Isabelle (Lloyd) Love, were natives of Ireland and Illinois respectively. The

father, a farmer by occupation, was numbered among the veterans of the Civil war, serving for almost four years as a member of Company B, Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He passed away in Rock Island, Illinois, in 1895, while his wife survived until 1909, her death also occurring in that city. She was the second daughter of Mahlon B. Lloyd, the first settler of Western township, who took up his abode within its borders in 1837. Her sister, who married Leonard R. Bothwell, is the only surviving member of the Lloyd family. The subject is one of a family of five children born unto Mr. and Mrs. William Love, only two of whom survive, the other being an elder brother, William A., a lawyer of Chicago, Illinois, who was educated in the University of Michigan.

Passing the years of his boyhood and youth on his father's farm in Henry county, Edgar C. Love acquired his early education in the public schools and later supplemented this training by a course of study in Knox College of Galesburg, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1903. After leaving college he took up the occupation of farming in Henry county and is to-day engaged in the conduct of the old home farm, which consists of two hundred and forty-two acres located on section 27, Western township. This farm under his careful and wise management has been brought under a high state of cultivation and is one of the valuable and desirable properties in the township. He has carried on his enterprise in accordance with progressive and up-to-date methods and as a reward for his care and labor he annually reaps rich golden harvests.

It was in 1906 that Mr. Love was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude K. Baker, who was born in Davenport, Iowa, a daughter of James and Mattie (Davis) Baker, both of whom passed away in Iowa. The father was born in Pennsylvania and the mother in Davenport, and in their family were two children: Gertrude K., the wife of our subject; and Lamont, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Love has been born one child, Katherine Isabel, whose birth occurred on the 22d of June, 1907, and who is the light and life of the household. In politics Mr. Love supports the republican party and is public spirited and loyal in his citizenship. Although still young in years, he has attained a degree of success which augurs well for a bright future. He has many friends in Western township, where almost his entire life has been spent, and is held in high regard and esteem by all who know him.

---

#### WILLIAM G. WOLF.

William G. Wolf, one of the larger farmers and stockmen of Geneseo township, was born in Hoopole, Yorkstown township, this county, September 13, 1868. His parents, Jacob and Margaret (Shafer) Wolf, were both born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, but came to America singly and before their parents, though these followed them to the United States after their children had made a place to receive them. Jacob Wolf was a soldier in the German army and after the conclusion of the war that was then waging he came to America. Upon his arrival in this part of the country he secured employment in a packing house in

Peoria and while there the woman he had loved and courted in his old home came over. The couple were married in that city and then removed to Yorktown township, this county. After a short residence there they located in Geneseo, where Mr. Wolf purchased forty acres of land just east of the fair grounds. This place remained his home until his death. Thirteen children were born to him and his wife, but only five grew to years of maturity, namely: Catherine, who married Henry Ott; Jacob, who lives in Hooppole; Aaron, deceased in 1906, who married first Miss Christina Smith, by whom he had one child, and then Miss Leva Swanson, by whom he had another child; William G., of this review; and Amelia, who married William Miller and lives in Yorktown township.

William G. Wolf was reared at home and was about eight years old when his parents removed to Geneseo. He received a fair common school education, worked with his father during his boyhood and youth and after the latter's death continued on the farm to assist his mother. In 1888, when he was twenty years old, he married, and in the spring of the following year he removed to the James Mahon farm, which he rented. Subsequently he bought the Daniel Hoit place, which is situated near his present home, and a few years later purchased the land where he is living today, which increased his holdings to three hundred and fifty-six acres, all in one farm. The many modern buildings that are to be seen upon the place are the result of his labors, as are the many other improvements that bespeak the skill of the thrifty farmer. For more than fifteen years Mr. Wolf has been raising melons. He began on a small scale, planting only three acres, but has several times devoted twenty-six acres to that fruit and is the most extensive raiser of melons in Henry county. He has also given considerable attention to the breeding and feeding of pure blooded black polled Angus cattle and as his animals are of high grade he finds a ready market and good price for them.

At Cooper, Iowa, on the 3d of November, 1888, Mr. Wolf and Miss Minnie Dewey were united in marriage. She was born in Geneseo township and is a daughter of Henry and Sarah A. (DeGolia) Dewey. Seven children have been born of this marriage: Grace, Hazel, Wanda, Grant, Eva, Clarence and Bonnie.

While not a politician nor an office seeker, Mr. Wolf is always at the polls on election day, when his ballot is cast for the candidates of the republican party. He takes an interest in local affairs and for several years served his township as one of the school directors. He is a member of camp No. 40, M. W. A., and not only enjoys the society of his fraternal brothers but is willing to exert himself to their advantage.

---

#### PETER HEDLUND.

Peter Hedlund, deceased, was one of the well-to-do farmers of Henry county, living on section 7, Galva township. Of Swedish birth and parentage he was born February 21, 1840, in Handbu, Helsingland. His parents, Carl and Anna (Olson) Hedlund, both claimed Helsingland as their birthplace and America as the land of their adoption. The father died in middle life on Lake Michigan while on his way to Bishop Hill, but the mother survived the journey and

reached the little Swedish colony. In 1862 she removed to Galva township, where in 1886 she died at the advanced age of eighty years. Three sons and one daughter were born to Carl Hedlund and his wife: Olof, of Sweden; Carl, deceased; Peter, of this review; and Anna, the wife of Eric Nystrum, of Bishop Hill. The two oldest sons were both soldiers, Olof in the regular army of Sweden and Carl in the Civil war in this country. The father was a tailor by trade and also a farmer.

Peter Hedlund was but ten years of age when the family came to this country, and he grew to manhood in Bishop Hill. His days were devoted to farm work, and on many an occasion he drove a yoke of oxen in breaking prairie. In 1862 he removed to Galva township, where he first shared a small tract of land with the Bishop Hill colony, and later bought a little place of his own, to which he added continually until at the time of his death he had accumulated about one hundred and seventy-eight and a half acres. On this tract he made his home, having improved it with a good house, a barn and other buildings and brought the soil to a greater productiveness.

Mr. Hedlund was married on the 22d of June, 1867, to Miss Anna Anderson, a daughter of Andrew and Anna (Peterson) Anderson. She was of Swedish birth, having been born in Westmanland, July 30, 1837, and of Swedish ancestry. Of her parental grandfather, who died before she was born, Mrs. Hedlund remembers very little, but her maternal grandfather was Peter Gregulius, a native of Sweden and a farmer. His wife was Catherine Gregulius and was about eighty years of age at the time of her death. They had six daughters and one son: Catherine, Christine, Gregulius, Anna, Beta, Brita and Margaret. Mrs. Hedlund's parents, also of Swedish birth, came to America in 1850 with the Bishop Hill colony, in whose midst the children grew to maturity. In 1863 the family came to Galva township, which was their home until the death of the parents, the father dying in 1886 at the age of seventy-nine, the mother the following year at the age of eighty. There were five children, three sons and two daughters born to the couple: Peter, Andrew, John, Anna and Catharine. The last named died on the Atlantic, while coming to America.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hedlund were born four children, two sons and two daughters: Peter E., Laura A., Alice A. and Charles A. Three of the children live at home, but Alice has married Charles Stoneberg, who lives two miles north of Bishop Hill, and they have two sons, Charles H. and John E. Mr. Hedlund gave allegiance to no political party, but cast his vote as seemed to him right. A good man and true, he was deeply mourned when, at the age of fifty-five years, he was called away, June 9, 1895.

---

#### ALFRED BOHMAN.

The characteristics of thrift and energy, so strongly manifested in the Swedish race, are notable factors in the life of Alfred Bohman, who operates a valuable farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres, located on section 21, Western township. He was born on a farm in Oxford township, Henry county, April 15,

1872, the only child of Gust and Hannah (Lindburg) Bohman, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The father came to America in 1869, when a young man, and the mother was fourteen years of age when she accompanied her parents to the new world. Both located in Oxford township and it was there the two young people became acquainted and later married. Although the father was in very limited financial circumstances when he landed on American shores, he possessed a determination that is always sure to win success and as the years passed he worked on earnestly and diligently and is now a well-to-do man. Both parents still survive and make their home in Oxford township, which has been the place of their residence for many years.

Alfred Bohman was reared to farm life, assisting his father in the work of the home place during the spring and summer seasons, while in the winter months he gave his time to the acquirement of an education in the district schools. He was married on the 23d of September, 1897, in Oxford township, to Miss Anna Person, who is a native of Sweden but came to the United States with her parents when a young lady of seventeen years. After his marriage, Mr. Bohman continued with his parents on the home farm until 1901, when he removed to his present farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres on section 21, Western township. He has here such a home as is always found in possession of his countrymen, for investigation usually reveals the fact that the best improved farms and the most modern country residences in this section of the county are those that belong to the Swedish race. Mr. Bohman follows general farming to some extent but is also largely engaged in raising and feeding stock, which he ships to the city markets. He keeps only the best grades and therefore his stock always demands good prices.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bohman has been blessed with four sons and two daughters, namely: Reuben, Edward and Florence, who were born in Oxford township; and Alice, Arthur and Harry, who were born in Western township. All are still with their parents.

Mr. Bohman is a republican in his political belief and although he keeps well informed on the current and political issues of the day, he does not take an active part in public affairs as an office seeker. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church. He possesses a character that makes him strong, forceful, determined and aggressive and his valuable farming property is the visible evidence of what he has accomplished in the business world.

---

#### EDWARD W. LEWIS.

The fine farm of one hundred and fifty-seven acres on section 6, Cornwall township, on which Edward W. Lewis lives, constitutes but a part of the two hundred and seventy-five acres of well improved land he owns in Henry county. While he raises the crops adapted to soil and climate, he has made a specialty of breeding and feeding stock, the high quality of his Hereford cattle making him well known in this section of the state. A native of Henry county, he was born



MR. AND MRS. E. W. LEWIS



February 7, 1870, a son of William J. and Eliza (Claypool) Lewis, and a descendant of an old family, mention being made of his great-grandfather and grandfather in the sketch of A. J. Lewis, which appears on another page of this work.

William J. Lewis, the father of Edward W. Lewis, was born in Ohio, June 18, 1849, and came to Cornwall township, Henry county, Illinois, with his father in 1852. He became a farmer and later a stockman, achieving especial distinction as the latter, for he was the second in the county and the first in this township to breed Hereford cattle. When he removed to Geneseo he established a breeding farm on Bluff road, where his son David Harry is now carrying on the business he started. He was successful beyond the average and became one of the large landowners of the county, his possessions being the visible evidence of what he had accomplished through thrift, industry and good management. In politics he was a democrat and while not an office seeker he served efficiently as tax collector and highway commissioner. While a resident of Cornwall township he was a member of the Liberty church, but when he removed to Geneseo he joined the Congregationalists. His life always measured up to a high standard of manhood and citizenship, and in his death, which occurred September 6, 1896, Henry county lost one of its valued men. In his young manhood he wedded Miss Eliza Claypool, a daughter of Elijah Claypool, and they became the parents of four sons: Edward W., of this review; James Fred, who resides in Geneseo; Perry T., who also lives in Geneseo; and D. Harry, who is engaged in the stock business on Bluff road. Mrs. Lewis died when her eldest son was eight years of age.

The days of his boyhood passed busily for Edward W. Lewis for he participated in the work that was carried on on the home farm at the same time that he pursued his lessons in the district school. He also spent one term at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, where his education was completed. At the age of twenty-one years he operated a portion of his father's farm, receiving a share of the crops, and later became a partner in the stock business also, continuing therein until his father's death. Then he inherited eighty acres and after the death of his stepmother came into possession of more land, and now, in addition to the two hundred and seventy-five acres he owns in Henry county, has four hundred and eighty acres in Sherman county, Kansas. In the fall of 1900 he purchased the J. K. Reherd farm in Geneseo township, where Theodore F. Erdman now lives, for ninety dollars an acre, moving thereto in the spring of 1901. In 1903, while he was living there a cyclone passed over the country, demolishing the buildings upon his place. It happened that his wife and son had taken the train for Rock Island that day and thus avoided the storm, but he was in the barn at the time and after the roof was carried away succeeded in making his escape without injury. In 1906 he sold the farm to F. A. Snodgrass, who paid one hundred and forty dollars an acre for it, that price for that size farm being the largest which had ever been received for arable land in the township up to that time. Mr. Lewis makes a specialty of breeding and feeding blooded Hereford cattle, but he also carries on general farming, and that he is successful, enterprising and progressive is indicated by the attractive appearance of his place and the number and character of his buildings.

At South Heights, Rock Island county, Illinois, March 6, 1895, Mr. Lewis wedded Miss Mary E. Wood, of that village, where she was born February 6, 1870. Her father, George Wood, was a native of New York city and was early left an orphan, for his father, who was a sea captain, was lost on the ocean, and his mother died while he was a boy. He grew to manhood in the state of his birth, learning the ship carpenter's trade, and he started to New Orleans, Louisiana, with the intention of locating there but on reaching Rock Island county, Illinois, he became acquainted with Miss Elizabeth J. Bollman, whom he married. He then established his home in that section of the state and engaged in carpentering and fruit growing. He died November 1, 1907, but his wife is still living and resides in the old home in Rock Island county. She was born near Bloody Run, Pennsylvania, and her mother was also a native of the Keystone state. The latter was a descendant of a French royalist family and came to Illinois about 1845, before the railroads had been built to Rock Island. She witnessed the great change the years wrought in the state, for she lived to the venerable age of ninety-five, dying in March, 1907. Mrs. Lewis was graduated from the Rock Island high school and thereafter engaged in teaching. She was employed in one of the schools of Henry county when she became acquainted with Mr. Lewis and later taught in Rock Island. She has become the mother of a son, Kenneth Woodbury, who was born in Geneseo township.

Mr. Lewis is a republican in his political affiliations, but although an interested spectator of public affairs he has never had any desire to hold office. With his wife he belongs to the Mystic Workers of Geneseo, and Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of the city, although she generally attends religious services in Cornwall township. He is a man who makes good use of his opportunities, has prospered from year to year and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully. He has not permitted the accumulation of a competence, however, to affect his actions toward those less successful than he, but has a cheerful word and pleasant smile for all with whom he comes in contact.

---

### HARRY EARL FERGUSON.

Harry Earl Ferguson, an enterprising and progressive farmer and stock dealer of Western township, was born on the old homestead upon which his parents still reside, on the 29th of October, 1882, and is a son of George William and Inez E. (Hitchcock) Ferguson. There he was reared to manhood, receiving his early educational training in the schools near his father's home, while at the age of seventeen he entered the high school at Galesburg, from which he was graduated in 1902 with a class of one hundred and twenty-four members. After leaving school he returned home and for a time lived with a sister, Mrs. Mahlon Love. His entire life has been characterized by agricultural pursuits, having a half interest in a farm with his father. In the fall of 1908 in connection with his father he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 2, Western township, where he now makes his home and to the cultivation of which he

is directing his entire energies. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, the soil yielding rich harvests that are proving sources of gratifying annual revenue. In 1909 he erected an up-to-date and modern residence equipped with hot and cold water, heated by hot air and lighted with acetylene gas, having installed a gas plant upon the place. He has introduced many other improvements and the place is lacking in nothing that goes to make up a model farm of the twentieth century. He carries on general farming and also engages extensively in feeding and shipping stock, both branches of his business proving very successful. Energetic and industrious, his well directed efforts and close application have been salient elements in the prosperity which he today enjoys and he is ranked among the enterprising and progressive farmers of the township.

It was on the 17th of June, 1908, that Mr. Ferguson was united in marriage in Orion to Miss Laura Amelia Rutledge, of that city, whose birth occurred upon a farm in Oxford township. She is a daughter of Rockwell and Ella (Jordan) Rutledge, the father having been born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of December, 1859. In early life he came to Henry county with his parents, the family home being established near Alpha. He was a farmer by occupation and was thus engaged until his demise, which occurred March 21, 1887, when the daughter was but two years of age. The mother, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, accompanied her parents to Henry county when she was but five years of age. Mrs. Ferguson attended the public schools of Orion, graduating with the class of 1902, and taught in the country schools of Henry county for several years and in the graded schools of Orion for two years. She was the only child born unto her parents, and her mother, who still survives, makes her home with her. She and her husband are both members of the Baptist church at Orion, and politically Mr. Ferguson is identified with the republican party. He is not an aspirant for public office, however, preferring to devote his entire time and energy to the conduct of his private business affairs, which, capably managed, are returning to him gratifying remuneration. Having spent his entire life in Western township he has gained an extensive circle of warm friends who entertain for him the utmost regard and esteem because of his excellent traits of character.

---

#### ALVIN M. LYON.

Alvin M. Lyon, deceased, who was equally successful as a farmer and teacher, and whose home on section 11, Edford township, is the place of residence of his children today, was born in Union county, Connecticut, July 4, 1843. His parents, Lyman and Olive (Buck) Lyon, came to Illinois in 1850 and three years later purchased a farm in Geneseo township, Henry county, on which they passed the remainder of their days.

Alvin M. Lyon was but seven years of age when his parents came to this state. He began his education in the public schools of Geneseo and then entered the old seminary which has since become only a memory. At the age of twenty he began his career as a teacher, instructing the pupils who attended the schools of Hanna

township. In 1870, shortly before his marriage, he purchased the farm on which his children now live and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Reared as he had been on a farm, he had already had some experience in the tilling of the soil, so that it was with a knowing hand that he again took up farming. He was able to win an appreciable return from his fields and found pleasure in this vocation.

On the 27th of November, 1870, Mr. Alvin married Miss Achsah Adams, who was born in Sterling, Illinois, and was a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Darling) Adams. Like her husband, she too had received her higher education from the old seminary and had engaged in teaching for a few years prior to her marriage. Seven children were born of this union. Robert B., the eldest, finished his education in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. He married Miss Alice Muzzy and follows farming in Geneseo township. Amy L. attended the Northwestern Normal in her youth, but has since married Bert J. Parriott and lives in Lidgerwood, North Dakota. They have a daughter, Marvel. Fanny became a teacher and later was graduated from Brown's Business College, in Galesburg. She is now a stenographer in that city. Jessie C. began to teach school at the age of seventeen and after an experience of a couple of years attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. She spent the winters of 1906 and 1907 at the Knox Conservatory of Music. Edna Achsah attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, from which she was graduated with first honors in the class of 1902. She engaged in teaching for a few years but is now a resident of Pasadena, California. Chester Adams, the youngest of the family, was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and has taken up the profession of teaching, looking forward to attaining his father's success.

Alvin M. Lyon generally affiliated with the democratic party, feeling more in sympathy with its platform than with that of any other political party, but he was independent in his views and on many occasions voted for the man or measure that seemed to him best, irrespective of party allegiance. He was deeply concerned for the advancement of the interests of his fellow agriculturists and was a leader in that organization known as the Knights of Labor, which has as its prime aim the improvement of the conditions of the farmers. Fraternally he was also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was a man who possessed the capacity of making stanch friends, and when, on the 20th of April, 1909, he passed away, he was widely mourned as a good citizen, a loyal friend and a devoted father. His wife had preceded him to the grave by more than ten years, her death having occurred December 15, 1898.

---

#### FREDERICK A. HINES.

Frederick A. Hines, whose birth occurred December 8, 1862, on the old homestead in Phenix township, Henry county, Illinois, is a son of Henry and Susan (Henney) Hines, the former born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1817, and the latter in Ohio in 1825. When he was but two years of age, Henry Hines was brought to the United States by his parents, who settled in Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Ohio. Later, in 1852, accompanied by his young wife, the father of

our subject drove all the way from Ohio to Henry county, Illinois, in a one-horse wagon, the railroad in those days coming only to La Salle. Thus he witnessed during his remaining days, much of the growth and development of this section of Illinois for when he came the country was a wild prairie presenting all the evidences of frontier life—forests in their native state and streams unbridged, while deer and other wild animals roamed over the country. Henry Hines located on section 26, Phenix township, there establishing the homestead that has since been in possession of the family. He had eight children: John H., who is now living in Kansas; Lucy, the widow of Washington Rowe, her home being in Geneseo, Illinois; Christina, who became the wife of Aaron Rapp, also of Geneseo; Mary, who wedded Abner Offerle, of Kansas; Sarah, the wife of Leonard Sieben, living in Geneseo; Hattie, now the wife of John Goemle, their home being in Kirksville, Missouri; Peter H., a minister of the United Evangelical church, whose home is also in Missouri; and Frederick A., the subject of this review.

Frederick A. Hines was reared under the parental roof, early becoming familiar with the duties that fall to the lot of a lad reared on a farm. Under these conditions he acquired as best he could the rudimentary elements of English learning in the district schools, learning far more practical lessons through experience and hard work in the cultivation of the fields and many other duties that go to make up the daily routine of the agriculturist. Left fatherless at the age of seven years, he remained at home, assisting his mother who continued to operate the farm after the death of her husband, until he was twenty-one years old. Inheriting his father's persistency of purpose, perseverance in overcoming all difficulties that confronted him and undaunted courage, he worked unceasingly through the days and years intervening until in 1889 he was enabled to buy the old homestead place which contains one hundred and twenty acres in Phenix township, where he was born, and which is dear to him through the associations of his boyhood.

Three years before he had purchased his home occurred the marriage of Mr. Hines and Miss Sarah Bollen, who was born December 2, 1864, in Loraine township, this county, and is a daughter of John and Caroline (Heller) Bollen, the former born in July, 1834, in Ohio and the latter in 1839. Her mother passed away in 1872 and is buried in Loraine township. Her father, who now resides in Geneseo, was a farmer by occupation and came to Illinois in the early pioneer days, driving across the country with an ox-team. He broke prairie in both Henry and Whiteside counties. He was a republican and highly esteemed by his fellow citizens who elected him to all of the township offices. Unto him and his wife were born four children, as follows: William, who lives in Geneseo township, this county; Mrs. Frederick A. Hines; John W., who makes his home in Osco township, this county; and Wesley, who died in infancy. The parents were members of the Methodist church, as is also the wife of our subject, who is teaching in the Sunday school and at present serving as president of the Ladies Aid Society. The home of Frederick A. Hines and his wife has been blessed with three children: Floyd, who was born March 17, 1887, attended college at Geneseo and is now assisting his father. Ethel Gertrude, born May 21, 1889, teaches music. Lois Irene, born June 12, 1902, is now in school.

Aside from the homestead farm the landed holdings of Mr. Hines include a good farm in South Dakota and in addition to general farming on the home place he also engages in stock raising, which has proved a valuable branch of his business. Having worked through many years, Mr. Hines and his wife, who has been of great assistance to him through her able management of the household affairs, are now enjoying well merited prosperity and their home, which Mr. Hines erected in 1900, is one of the most comfortable and attractive modern homes of the township; but above all temporary comforts and blessings, Mr. and Mrs. Hines command the respect and receive the good wishes of all with whom they have come in contact. In his political views he is a republican and has served as town clerk and assessor of Phenix township, has been a school director and at present is serving in the office of justice of the peace. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is both a trustee and a steward. A broadminded man, his influence has been far-reaching and his efforts effective in all those things which uplift and benefit the community intellectually, morally and spiritually.

---

#### ADOLPH F. ANDERSON.

Among the influential citizens of Lynn township is Adolph F. Anderson, who is a native of Sweden, born January 1, 1851, and a son of Andrew J. and Britta (Munson) Anderson. When but fourteen years of age he was deprived of his father by death and unusual responsibilities settled upon his young shoulders. He was educated in the schools of his native country and as a youth learned the trade of machinist and blacksmith.

After gaining a livelihood through his trade for a number of years he decided to come to America, and in 1879 put this decision into effect. Upon his arrival he located at Afton, Iowa, where for six months he found employment as a section hand upon a railroad. In the fall of the same year he removed to Rock Island, Illinois, where in the plow works of that city he found employment at his trade. He remained there for a number of years but on March 18, 1886, he came to Lynn Center, Henry county, which he soon became satisfied should be his permanent home. He established a small shop, equipped with lathes, drills and other machinery for doing such repair and other work as was needed in the locality, with a blacksmith shop in connection. His thrift, diligence and honorable methods gradually built up a good business which has expanded until it has assumed extensive proportions. In addition to the machinist and blacksmith work done by Mr. Anderson he handles a full line of goods, embracing every machine and implement used on the farm, together with fencing, salt, roofing, paints, pumps and windmills. He also manufactures wagons, hay-racks, water tanks and wagon shoveling boards. In a progressive farming district like Lynn Center such an establishment is almost indispensable and Mr. Anderson enjoys the good will and liberal patronage of the entire community.

Before leaving his native country Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Olson, a daughter of Olaf and Anna Olson, of Sweden. The cere-

mony was performed December 28, 1878, and the officiating clergyman was the Rev. Mr. Bull. Although some of the relatives of Mrs. Anderson came to America, her parents never left their native country. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born nine children, all of whom are living. Amanda is now the wife of Charles Ellstrom, an Oxford township farmer; Charles is the agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Lynn Center; Richard is telegraph operator for the same road at Lynn Center; Esther is the wife of Fred Peterson, of New Windsor; Olga is a popular and successful school teacher; Martin is a student at Rock Island College, while Melvin, Eleanor and Herman are at home.

Mr. Anderson gives his allegiance to the republican party. Although very influential as a private citizen, few men being better informed than he upon current issues, he has never been one to crave the honors and emoluments of office. However, he does not shirk his public duty but for twenty years has served as a member of the Lynn board of education. He is identified prominently with three Orion organizations: Sherman Lodge, No. 535, F. A. & A. M.; the Modern Woodmen of America; and the Mystic Workers. Mr. Anderson and his family are members of the Lutheran church at Andover and are active in both church and Sunday school. As a family they are a credit to the community, morally, intellectually and socially. Their home is one of the most attractive in the pleasant little village of Lynn Center and is the scene of much of the social life of the neighborhood. In 1885 Mr. Anderson's mother came to America to make her home and had a place in the family circle until her death May 16, 1903. She is interred in the cemetery at Andover. In summing up let it be said that Mr. Anderson is a representative citizen whose influence is always found on the side of progress and improved conditions.

---

### GEORGE REHER.

George Reher, the sexton of Oakwood cemetery, was born in Holstein, Germany, September 4, 1848, and is a son of Karl and Fredericka Reher. The father was a laborer and not able to do much for his son, but George received a good common-school education and then apprenticed himself to a shoemaker to learn the trade. He worked for three years without pay and then obtained piece work, later pursuing his occupation as a journeyman. In the spring of 1870 he started for America with his parents and was three weeks crossing the ocean, being delayed by broken machinery and severe storms. In one of these the ship was driven about two hundred miles from its course and the waves dashed higher than the craft that was trying to brave them. The life-boats were constantly kept in readiness, but there was never need for them and the ship and its passengers reached harbor in safety.

Landing at New York, Mr. Reher and his parents made their way directly to Henry county, Illinois, where a brother-in-law, Henry Schmidt, was living. He had but few possessions when he arrived in this state and did not know a word of English, but he was not discouraged, determining to master his deficiencies and get ahead in this new land. The parents took up their abode with Henry

Schmidt, with whom they remained until their deaths. With the intention of learning to speak the language as quickly as possible, George Reher secured employment with an American family. His difficulties were many, however, for his ignorance of English was so great that he had a hard time understanding the wants of the men and could obtain but little assistance from the Swede who also worked there and had acquired a slight knowledge of the meaning of our words. Besides, he had never worked with horses and did not know how either to care for one, harness him or even ride or drive. He persevered, however, received twenty-four dollars a month wages and continued to work as a farm hand for many years. In the early '80s he came to Geneseo, where he obtained work on the railroad and from the city. As the result of his saving, he was at length able to buy some property in the third ward of the city. He sold this, however, when on February 1, 1887, he was appointed to his present position. Oakwood cemetery was opened in 1868 and several other sextons had had the care of it but for more than two decades Mr. Reher has had the responsibility of keeping it in good order and making it one of the attractive cemeteries of the county.

On the 26th of February, 1872, Mr. Reher married the woman he had loved and courted in his native home, Miss Henrietta Tehen. Her father was killed in the war of 1849 and his daughter never knew his given name, but her mother was Miss Carolina Pegler in her maidenhood. Mrs. Reher received a good education in the German schools and when Mr. Reher had made sufficient progress in this country he sent for her to join him. To them seven children have been born: Nellie, the eldest, married William Becker. They have four children and live in Geneseo. Charles married Miss Alice Crisbie and lives in Geneseo. William married Miss Bertha Schmekel and also lives in Geneseo. They have one child. Louis married Miss Mabel Wieneke and resides in Geneseo. Etta became the wife of Fred Fricke and lives in Nebraska. Fred was graduated from the Geneseo high school and then attended the normal school in Valley City, North Dakota. He is now engaged in teaching. George is still at home.

The family are members of the German Lutheran church, while Mr. Reher is a republican in his political affiliations. He finds social diversion and relaxation in Tribune Lodge, No. 14. Handicapped though he was by his ignorance of our language as well as of our customs, he has succeeded in making a place for himself and in attaining the respect of his fellow citizens.

---

### JOHN HALE MANNON, A. M., M. D.

Dr. John Hale Mannon, who has now been engaged in the practice of medicine at Kewanee for almost three decades, is numbered among the leading and successful members of the profession in this county. His birth occurred in Brown county, Ohio, on the 2d of February, 1851, his parents being John and Matilda (McPherson) Mannon, the former a farmer by occupation. In 1855 the family home was established at Monmouth, Illinois, and there Dr. Mannon obtained his more specifically literary education, being graduated from Monmouth College in 1876. He then followed the profession of teaching for a year and

afterward began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. J. H. Walch. Subsequently he entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1880, winning the degree of M. D. He at once located for practice in Kewanee and this city has since remained the scene of his professional labors, his patronage having continually grown in volume and importance as he has demonstrated his skill and ability in the line of his chosen calling. The Physicians Club numbers him among its valued members and he also belongs to the Henry County Medical Society, thus keeping in touch with the progress that is being continually made by the profession. He is on the medical staff of St. Francis Hospital, of which he was one of the original members, and is likewise lecturer on contagious diseases. He also acts as medical examiner for a number of old line insurance companies.

On the 24th of December, 1878, Dr. Mannon was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Esther Hill, of Monmouth, Illinois. They lost a son, John, who passed away when but three years of age. Their surviving child, Mary, was married on the 10th of August, 1907, to Nathan John Higginbotham, who is now the representative of the National Tube Works at San Francisco, California. Mr. Higginbotham came to Kewanee from Decatur, Illinois, and entered the employ of the National Tube Works in a humble capacity but was promoted to positions of greater responsibility from time to time as he demonstrated his capability and faithfulness in the discharge of the duties entrusted to his care. He was eventually sent to New York as special salesman in the fittings department and later was transferred to San Francisco. Unto him and his wife have been born two children, namely: Mary Jane, whose birth occurred on the 1st of May, 1908; and John Mannon, who was born in Kewanee on the 8th of May, 1909.

Fraternally Dr. Mannon is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His personal characteristics have gained for him the warm regard and friendship of many, and in professional lines he has attained that eminence which only comes in recognition of merit and ability.

---

#### WILLIAM F. NOTT.

William F. Nott, who for the past twenty-nine years has been engaged in the livery business at Galva, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 30th of July, 1858. His parents, Abraham and Elizabeth (Slatt) Nott, were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. The father, who was identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his business career, journeyed westward in 1865 and took up his abode in Marion county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. About 1869 he came to Henry county, Illinois, settling in Galva, where he embarked in the butchering business and was thus busily engaged throughout practically the remainder of his life. He passed away in Galva, when sixty-nine years of age, and his loss was deeply mourned by all who knew him. His wife was called to her final rest when she had attained the age of sixty-seven years. They were both devoted and faithful members of the Congregational church. Their family numbered eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows:

Emma L.; Arthur; Bertha, the deceased wife of T. G. Bell; Lizzie; William F., of this review; Herbert D.; Julia, the wife of Edward I. Johnson, of Kewanee; and Norman, who died when about sixteen years of age.

William F. Nott, who was a lad of about eleven years when he came with his parents to this county, grew to manhood in Galva and attended the public schools in the acquirement of an education. He followed various pursuits in early manhood and remained at home until thirty-three years of age, his earnings going to the support of the family. In 1880 he embarked in the livery business at Galva and has since successfully conducted an enterprise of that character, enjoying a constantly growing and profitable patronage. In 1905 he incurred a loss of ten thousand dollars through the destruction of his stable by fire, and he afterward erected the fine brick stable in which his business has since been carried on.

Mr. Nott has been twice married. His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Ella Price and was a daughter of Archibald Price, died eighteen months after her marriage. On the 16th of November, 1893, Mr. Nott was joined in wedlock to Miss Alice Emery, a daughter of David Emery. They have one daughter, Marie.

In his political views Mr. Nott is a stanch republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which his wife is also identified. Much of his life has been spent in Henry county, where he has a wide acquaintance and is favorably known.

---

#### DAVID HADLEY.

David Hadley, deceased, whose farm was located partly on section 26 and partly on section 27, Osco township, was born in England, September 29, 1837. His father, William Hadley, was also of English birth and never left his native land. The son was seventeen years of age when he came. After landing upon our shores, Mr. Hadley remained for a time in New York and then came west to Illinois, locating in Henry county, where he engaged in farming and where he met the woman who became his first wife. She was Miss Susan Kilmer and to them were born two children. J. J. Hadley, the older, is in business in Osco township, but a more extended mention is made of him in another part of this volume. Emeline, the other child, became the wife of Leander Rowe and lives in Schaller, Sac county, Iowa. After the death of the mother Mr. Hadley married Miss Julia Gillett, who was born in Trivoli, Peoria county, Illinois, a daughter of Cyrus and Elizabeth (Jewell) Gillett. Their union, which was solemnized March 8, 1876, was blessed with five children. Minnie May married J. Heber Smith and lives in Osco township. Fred G. died at the age of twenty-three years. Bert Elmer married Darlane Peterson, who bore him two children, and he died in Osco township, his family now living in Dunderan, Canada. Estella Pearl and Ruby Luella, the two youngest, are both at home.

Mr. Hadley was a firm believer in the platform of the republican party, but although he always exercised his right of franchise, which he believed was the

duty of every citizen, he never sought for any office within the gift of the people. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church and was not only a devout attendant at religious services but also ordered his life in accordance with its teachings and actively identified himself with the work of the church. For seventeen years he was superintendent of the Sunday school and for another long period was a class leader. Successful in his business affairs, and conscientious in his dealings with his fellowmen, he was respected as a citizen and when death called him was deeply mourned by those who knew him best. He died October 3, 1890, leaving to his family a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres.

---

### HORACE F. SIMMONS.

Horace F. Simmons is one of the men who is profiting by the confidence he evinced in the future of Henry county land. He was born January 25, 1857, in Kewanee, Illinois, a son of William H. and Mary Ann (Briggs) Simmons, natives of Massachusetts, who were married in the east. The father went first to Tazewell county, Illinois, in 1837 before he was married, spending a year there working on the first buildings erected in Delavan, he being a contractor and builder. These buildings were a sawmill and a hotel and when he had completed them he returned to Massachusetts and married Mary Ann Briggs. In 1842 they removed to Pennsylvania, where he followed contracting and building. Seeking wider fields, he then went to Columbiana county, Ohio, remaining there until 1854, when the family came to Illinois, locating at Kewanee. Here the father found employment at his trade until 1860, in which year he removed to Clover township, where he had purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1894. In that year he took up his abode in Woodhull, living there retired until his death in July, 1902. His wife died before him in September, 1901, and both are interred in the cemetery at Woodhull. Mr. Simmons prospered in his undertakings, becoming the owner of twelve hundred acres of excellent land. His original purchase of one hundred and sixty acres in Clover township cost him seven hundred dollars. That same land is still in the possession of the family and is now worth at least thirty-two thousand dollars or two hundred dollars an acre. He was a man who took an active interest in public matters and while a member of the county board of supervisors from Clover township did much to advance his locality. During his incumbency of the office the county infirmary buildings were erected, he being a member of the committee having that in charge. In every way he was a very capable man and his judgment was often sought in public and private affairs. All his life he commanded the highest respect of his associates, being a man of strong character and strictest integrity. Seven children were born to him and his wife, namely: William Henry and Mary E., who are deceased; M. Eugenia, who married Alfred A. Stickney; L. Alice, who married George Wood; Eveline A.; George W., deceased; and Horace F.

Horace F. Simmons spent his youth with his father upon the farm and was educated in the Clover township schools and the Barrington Commercial College.

He early showed a capacity for business and has devoted himself to his father's large realty interests. On June 28, 1899, he married Elizabeth Durston, a daughter of Charles F. and Sarah H. (Gould) Durston, both natives of Mercer county, Illinois. Both the Durston and Gould families came from England some years ago. Mr. Durston was a farmer early in life but for many years served as county clerk of Mercer county, later as deputy circuit clerk and was a man who was prominent in public affairs. He died in April, 1909, but his widow survives and still resides in Mercer county, where their entire lives were spent. Mrs. Simmons was educated in the public schools of Aledo and at Lombard College, Galesburg, from which she was graduated in 1890. Following this she taught in Mercer and Henry counties for several years prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons are the parents of three daughters namely: Alice G., Ethel L. and Ruth Elizabeth. Since his marriage Mr. Simmons has lived in Woodhull, where he looks after his extensive holdings, owning about six hundred acres of magnificent farming land, all well improved and under a high state of cultivation.

A democrat in his political views, he keeps well informed on both sides of every question, believing it the duty of every good citizen to do so. He and his family affiliate with the Presbyterian church, he being a member of the board of trustees of that body as well as one of its most liberal supporters. Mr. Simmons has always heartily supported all measures calculated to secure good schools, better roads and improved conditions of things generally.

---

#### ALEXANDER L. LOVE.

Among the agriculturists of Henry county who have attained a pronounced success and have evinced a keen interest in all that pertains to the public welfare is Alexander L. Love, who owns the greater part of section 8, Western township. He was born in County Antrim, Ireland, August 18, 1849, his parents being John and Mary A. (Duncan) Love. He was but an infant in arms when they left their home and started upon their journey to the new world. After crossing the Atlantic, they settled in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where the father soon afterward died, leaving a widow with ten children, of whom Alexander was the youngest. Hard as was the task bequeathed to the courageous woman, she managed to rear them and keep them together upon the Pennsylvania farm until 1871, when they removed to Henry county, Illinois. About ten years before one son, William Love, had come here, and after his return from the army, in which he had enlisted shortly after his arrival here, he bought land in Western township. When Alexander Love and his mother came here, she purchased the place on which he lives today for she had sold the two farms she owned in Pennsylvania, and it remained her home until 1892, when she passed away in her eighty-third year. Her ten children grew to maturity and most of them are still living. Ann, the eldest, has remained unmarried and makes her home with her brother Alexander. Elizabeth became the wife of John Blair but died in Millville, New Jersey, before the family came to Illinois. The two children she left are now in

this state. Jane lives in Chicago. Nancy is the widow of Joseph Watson and lives in Orion. She has two children living. Matilda married William Finley, who died in 1892, and she lives in Orion with her daughter, Mrs. Charles Hanna. Mary resides in Chicago, her husband, Hugh Gerrity, having died several years ago. Their son, John, also lives in Chicago. William, who came to Henry county, in 1861, enlisted in 1862 in Company B, Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and at the expiration of his three years' term reenlisted serving until the close of the war. He was rapidly promoted for meritorious service. At Harpers Ferry he was taken prisoner, but was afterwards released on parole. He left the army with the rank of second lieutenant. After his return from service he engaged in farming in Western township and wedded Miss Isabel Lloyd. Their union was blessed with five children, two of whom died in infancy. Three sons lived to maturity: Mahlon, who married Miss Grace Ferguson and died in 1902, leaving three children; William Arthur, who is an attorney in Chicago; and Edgar, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. William Love died in 1895. Maria L., the next of family, is unmarried and lives with her brother Alexander. James A. wedded Miss Anna Beatty who passed away about twenty-two years ago. Five children were born unto them. Alexander L., the youngest, is the subject of this sketch.

Alexander L. Love received a fair education. He was a pupil first in the country schools near his Pennsylvania home, later entered the academy at Trenton, New Jersey, after which he attended Bryant & Stratton Business College in that city from which he was graduated. Upon coming to Illinois he remained with his mother, for whom he operated the farm. In 1877 he married and in a short time purchased the Crampton property, embracing one hundred and sixty acres, which had previously been his wife's home. On that Mr. Love lived until 1902, when he removed to the farm where he lives today. It was the place to which his mother brought her family when she came to this county, although it has been enlarged until now Mrs. Love owns five hundred and twenty acres in Western township. Although he has met with success in his farming operations, he has not given to it his attention to the exclusion of other matters which have held equally large opportunities for him. For two years he was interested in grain buying in Crampton, and later, in 1890, with his brother William organized the Farmers Bank of Orion, filling the position of cashier. In 1908, when this came under the banking laws of Illinois, its name was changed to the Farmers State Bank, and Mr. Love was made the first president of the new concern, a position he has held to the present.

On the 27th of March, 1877, in Western township, Mr. Love and Miss Mary S. Crampton were joined in marriage. She is a daughter of Francis A. and Eleanor (Huston) Crampton and was born in 1858 in Preble county, Ohio. Mr. Crampton moved his family to Henry county in 1859, taking up his residence in Western township. For a short period he was engaged in commercial pursuits in Davenport but returned once more to Western township, opening a store in Orion, which he conducted until 1889. In that year he removed to Ventura, California, to pass the remainder of his life in retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Love have had four children. Francis, the eldest, died in infancy. Henry Jay was graduated from the Geneseo Collegiate Institute in 1898,

and after teaching a year entered Knox College, from which he received his degree in 1903. Thereupon he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan, receiving his license to practice medicine and surgery in 1907. The next two years he spent in the railway hospital of the Santa Fe at Topeka, Kansas, and now has established himself in East Moline, Illinois. He has not married. Eleanor Jane was graduated from the Galesburg high school with the class of 1905 and later spent one year at Waterman Hall in Sycamore, Illinois. Mary A. attended the high school at Ventura, California, for two years, and is now a junior in the Moline high school.

Politically Mr. Love is in sympathy with the principles of the republican party but he has never aspired to public office. He is a member of Sherman Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., and with his wife and daughter Eleanor belongs to the Eastern Star, in which the latter has been elector. Successful, popular and enjoying the friendship of many, he is one of the highly respected men of his community.

---

### CHARLES W. MOUNT.

Among the successful agriculturists of the younger generation in Weller township, must be numbered Charles W. Mount, who with care and great industry tills a farm of eighty acres about three quarters of a mile east of the village of Nekoma. A native of this township, he was born April 10, 1873, a son of Jacob Mount. The latter was born in Brown county, Ohio, September 11, 1830, and remained in the place of his birth until he reached the age of twenty-five years, when he drove across the country to Nekoma, Illinois. For almost a score of years he lived on numerous farms in the vicinity of the village, coming in the spring of 1875 to the place which his son Charles W. Mount operates today. It remained his home, too, and the scene of his active life until the 5th of October, 1902, when he thought he was justified in relinquishing the heavier of life's duties and retired to the city of Galva. He has not, however, given up his interest in affairs generally nor in the welfare of his fellow citizens, although he has reached the age of seventy-nine years. He is still in possession of his faculties and moves with a briskness that belies his age.

As soon as old enough to attend Charles W. Mount was enrolled as a pupil of the common schools of the district near Nekoma, and from his childhood he worked with his father upon the home farm. Later when the older man felt that advancing years and a large competence justified his retiring from active life, Charles W. Mount assumed the full responsibilities of the operation of the homestead, which he carries on to the present time. He has pursued general farming, but has also become interested in the Galva Grain Elevator Company of Galva and Nekoma, which returns him a most acceptable addition to his income. He keeps upon his place a thoroughbred Shire stallion, which is the only one of its kind in the neighborhood. The best years of his life, one may well judge, are before him, and they should be as rich in the good fortune they have in store as have been those of the past, when he has done little more than make

a trial of what was within his power and what he might accomplish through continued devotion to his vocation.

On the 3d of December, 1903, Mr. Mount wedded Miss Aurora P. Lindbeck, a daughter of Dan Lindbeck, a carpenter of Bishop Hill. Two sons have been born to the couple: Claude C., who is now four years of age; and Harold A., who has but recently completed his first year. While Mr. Mount claims he gives his support to the democratic party, he is in reality non-partisan in his views, seldom failing to cast his ballot in favor of the men who represents the best interests of the community he would serve. In the ranks of the Modern Woodmen of America he has played a conspicuous part, for he has for a number of years belonged to the camp located at Nekoma, in which he has held the office of escort for a considerable period.

---

#### LESLIE H. McDONALD.

Leslie H. McDonald is an enterprising young farmer, who operates the old homestead farm, located on section 20, Western township, and comprises two hundred and forty acres. He was born on the farm which is now his home, November 18, 1880. His paternal grandfather, James McDonald, was born in Ohio and after reaching years of maturity went to Indiana, where he met and married Miss Jane Spivey, after which they located in Rock Island county, Illinois. This was in the early '40s and James McDonald, availing himself of the opportunity to get land at a low price, purchased farm property from the government to which he later added until he became the owner of a section in that county. He there reared his family which included Lawrence McDonald, the father of our subject. The latter was born on the home farm, June 7, 1854, and was there reared to maturity. When he started out in the business world he was given substantial aid by his father in the purchase of one hundred and six acres, which constitutes a portion of the present home place, and thus it was that the McDonald family was established in Henry county. Prior to his location in Henry county, however, Lawrence McDonald was married in his native county to Miss Theresa Haskell, who was there born in June, 1855. The farm which Mr. McDonald purchased was but partially improved but he eventually added better and more substantial buildings and as the years passed he increased his acreage until he now owns five hundred and sixty-three acres, a part of which is located in Rock Island county and the balance in Western township. Mr. McDonald was actively identified with agricultural interests until the spring of 1909, since which time he has lived retired, while the son manages the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have four sons. Willis Sherman, who was born on Christmas day of 1877, wedded Miss Anna Stewart, and is a barber of Draper, South Dakota. Leslie H., of this review, is the next in order of birth. Ray and Ralph are twins, born January 7, 1885. The former wedded Miss Lina McMeekin and makes his home in Western township, while the latter is still single and is engaged as a stenographer with the Air Motor Windmill & Gaso-

line Engine Company at Chicago. At one time there were five generations of the family living.

Leslie H. McDonald spent the period of his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm lads, assisting his father in the work of the fields from the time of planting until the harvesting was finished, and in the winter months he pursued his studies in the common schools. He remained with his father to the age of twenty-four years, when in 1904 he went to Fort Pierre, South Dakota, and entered a claim from the government, the patent being signed by President Roosevelt. He improved the tract and remained on it until he proved up and then returned to Henry county, where on the 27th of September, 1906, he was married to Miss Cora Tennant, the wedding ceremony being performed in Western township. Mrs. McDonald was born in Chicago, December 17, 1886, a daughter of William and Mary (Boyd) Tennant, who own a farm in this township and also a home in the metropolis. The daughter was given the advantages of a good education, completing the high school course in Hyde Park. She later pursued a business course in the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago, in the stenographic and bookkeeping departments. She is now proving herself an able assistant to her husband in managing his business affairs.

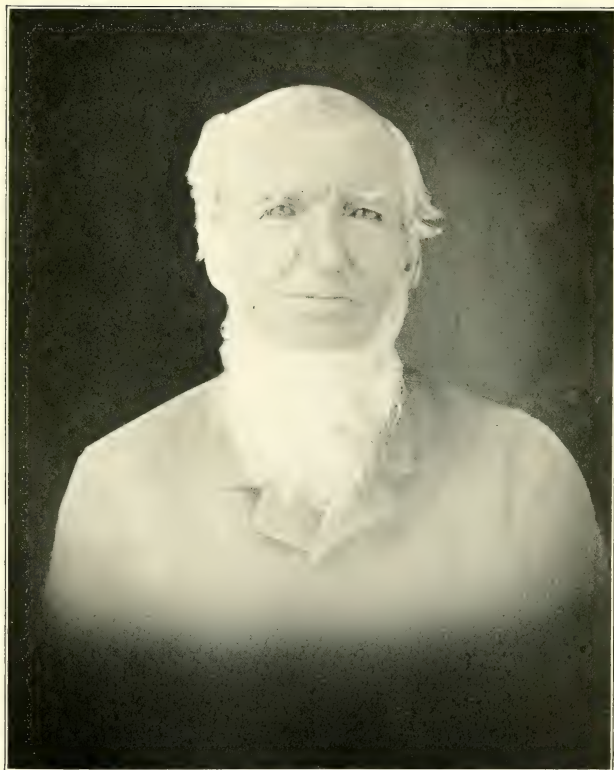
For the past year Mr. McDonald has operated the home place of two hundred and forty acres and in addition to doing general farming he also raises and feeds stock, which he ships to the city markets. He is ever watchful of opportunities pointing to success and conducts his business in a straightforward and honorable manner.

Mr. McDonald was reared in the faith of the democratic party but he now votes the prohibition ticket, being a strong advocate of the temperance question. He is a Baptist in religious faith, while his wife is a member of the United Presbyterian church. They attend and support the church at Orion.

---

#### WILLIAM C. COLE.

William C. Cole, one of the native farmers of Oxford township who has attained success in the calling to which he has devoted himself, was born November 3, 1863, on the farm on which he now lives and on which he has passed his entire life, and is a son of Festus C. and Elizabeth (Taze) Cole. His paternal grandfather, Amos Cole, came from Madison county, New York, in 1839 and settled in Oxford township when there were but few families here and when the house which he built and occupied was one of the four then standing in the township. The most primitive conditions prevailed at the time. The forests were dense and haunted by large game, wolves being not infrequently seen. In fact these often invaded the settled portions and many a struggling pioneer lost his young stock through a night's raid by these animals. At that time, too, there was no mill nearer than Peoria and the families had no wheat flour, but hominy and cakes made of corn which had been cracked or ground by such rude means as the home provided. A trip to Chicago in those days was an event of general interest,



AMOS COLE



for it was made but once a year. On such an occasion the great ox-team would be hitched to the wagon which wheeled off leaving a gathering that would eagerly await its return, for a full year would elapse before a similar journey would be undertaken and the articles and supplies which the wagon would bring would have to suffice for that period. To such a country did Amos Cole come when he established his family on the little tract of land he had procured in Oxford township. He was a pioneer, if ever there was one, and more than that he had the distinction of having been the first to follow the trade of a blacksmith here and his was the first shop where a horse might be shod or any heavy iron work done. Also he was the first postmaster, the mail being carried once a week on horseback by relays to Peoria. Where the Indians were more numerous than the white settlers Amos Cole reared his family, and as his sons grew to maturity he engaged more and more in farming, though the life of a tradesman always appealed more strongly and for many years before his death he conducted a hardware store in the village of Alpha. A man of rugged constitution and positive character, he was one of those strong men who did much to mold the public opinion of the time and direct the action of a people who only needed someone to express their ideas for them. Among them he was highly respected as a man of honor and ability. When he died, in February, 1897, the conditions of the past were no more than memories, well tilled farms and commodious homes had taken the place of the primitive forests, and the mode of life of the citizens as well as their habits had changed likewise. His wife had preceded him to the grave, her death having occurred in August, 1877, and both were buried in Summit Level cemetery. Five children were born to them, four of whom grew to maturity, although Festus C. and Lucy, who is the wife of William Shacklee, of Clover township, are the only ones now living.

Festus C. Cole, the father of the subject of this sketch, was five years of age when his father came to Oxford township, and all his life he has been a farmer in this locality. Prosperous, he has also won the high regard of his fellow citizens and is now enjoying many of the comforts of life. More than ten years ago he was deprived of the companionship of his wife, whose death occurred January 1, 1898, and she was buried in Summit Level cemetery, where all the other deceased members of his family lie. Four children were born to them and were reared upon the home farm: Cynthia J., deceased; William C., the subject of this sketch; Ruby E., who is the wife of Otis B. Timberlake, a farmer of Oxford township; and Leroy, deceased. All were given the best educational advantages afforded by the schools of the vicinity and the surviving are living lives of great utility, the result of the invaluable lessons of honesty, industry and economy taught them in their youth.

William C. Cole grew up on his father's farm, attending the district schools during the winter months and in the summer assisting in the work that was carried on in the fields. From the time he was able to handle the lightest agricultural implement he has been engaged in farming and always on the land which was his birthplace. The farm of two hundred and eighty acres has been large enough not only to give him plentiful harvests but also to afford an extensive pasturage for his large herds of cattle, which he raises for market. Progressive in his ideas, he has spared no effort to make his farming conform to the most re-

cent advances in his vocation and has followed modern ideas in the construction and maintenance of his buildings.

Mr. Cole has been married twice. On the 9th of December, 1885, he wedded Miss Martha Stitt, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Homman) Stitt, who came from Pennsylvania and settled in this county among the early pioneers. To this union were born five children: May E.; a son who died in infancy; William Clinton; Emma B.; and Robert K. Mrs. Cole died September 9, 1896, and like her infant son was buried in the cemetery on Summit Level. On the 30th of December, 1899, Mr. Cole married Miss Sarah J. Welch, whose parents, James and Isabelle (Paul) Welch, came from Ireland and for a time lived in Galesburg, Illinois, later removing to Oxford township, Henry county, where Mr. Welch followed farming. He is still living, but his wife died in 1904. Mr. Cole's second marriage has been blessed with one child, Richard, who was born February 8, 1909.

A strict member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he has reared his family in that faith, and his wife is equally as conscientious in her adherence to the Catholic creed. A democrat in his political views, he is a man who has always kept informed on matters of general interest and is well able to demonstrate his position. He has naturally evinced a strong interest in local affairs and has rendered the township valuable service as a member of the school board, during a period of twelve years, as assessor for Oxford for one year, and in April, 1909, was elected a member of the county board of supervisors. He has since been placed upon the important financial committee. A progressive and successful farmer and a tried servant of the people, Mr. Cole stands high in the esteem of all and is in fact a splendid citizen in every sense of the word.

---

### CAPTAIN JOHN ELLIS.

The life record of Captain John Ellis was an eventful one. With no special advantages in his youth he started out for himself at the age of thirteen years and at different times met with various hardships and difficulties, but with persistent purpose he continued on his way until success crowned his efforts in the fields in which he labored. He became one of the foremost representatives of industrial and financial circles in this part of the state and as a capitalist was widely known, not only in Kewanee but in other portions of the middle west. He was born of Welsh parentage in Bolton, England, September 23, 1825. His father, John Ellis, was a native of Denbigh, a town in the north of Wales, where his birth occurred in 1796. He became a noted Welsh preacher and later lived in Manchester, England, where he resided until his death, which occurred when he was in his eightieth year. The grandfather, the Rev. John Ellis, Sr., was also born in the little rock ribbed country of Wales and became a minister of Manchester. The mother of Captain Ellis bore the maiden name of Mary Pierce and was born in Denbigh, North Wales, in 1796. She passed away in Manchester in July, 1861, at the age of sixty-one years.

Captain Ellis had very little opportunity to acquire an education, his knowledge being largely obtained by hard study in evenings after the day's work was done, and through the experiences which came to him in life. He was a lad of thirteen years when he started out to earn his own living, being first employed in setting patterns for carpets and in printing them. When a youth of fourteen he entered upon an apprenticeship in an iron foundry at Bury, England. Self-reliant, energetic and of strong purpose, he left Bury for Liverpool, where he was successful in securing immediate employment. After a time he was appointed engineer in the iron works at Burnley, but still he was not satisfied that he was doing the best for himself, for the reports which he heard concerning America and her opportunities convinced him that he might make more rapid progress on the western continent.

Accordingly, in 1848, he came to the United States, landing at New York, where he found employment in the largest engine works in this country. In March, 1849, he went to New Haven, Connecticut, where he purchased an interest in a sailing vessel and then started for the gold fields of California by way of Cape Horn. It required eight months to complete the journey but at length he landed at San Francisco and at once proceeded direct to the mines. He went through the usual experiences and hardships of those who sought to make their fortunes on the Pacific coast at that early day. In 1851 he returned to the east and accepted a position as engineer on the New York & New Haven Railroad. He later went to Aurora, Illinois, and in that city first engaged in business for himself, establishing iron works, which he afterward removed to Batavia, Illinois. In 1852 he was married to Mary Mighell, of Aurora, who died in 1874. The only survival of said marriage is a grandchild, Mrs. Harry Young, now residing in Denver, Colorado. He developed an important industry and employed forty men, securing the contract for the manufacture of frogs and switches for the tracks of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad system. Not long after, however, he had the misfortune of having his foundry destroyed by fire and in that way lost everything he had.

In 1859 Captain Ellis started with a party for Pikes Peak, but by the time they reached their destination the gold fever had subsided so that they were forced to seek other employment. They were not successful in that and all started back except Captain Ellis, who continued his journey on a pack mule to Sacramento, California. There he was employed in various ways for some time, but mostly in a foundry. During that period he installed an engine in one of the river steamers there and afterward was engaged as chief engineer on the steamer Henrietta on the Sacramento river.

When the Civil war broke out he purchased a pack mule and returned across the mountains alone to the Mississippi valley, at length reaching Aurora, Illinois. He was there urged to take a company of soldiers to the front but declined to do so and instead enlisted as a private. He was soon appointed orderly sergeant, the highest con-commissioned officer. Subsequently, he organized a volunteer company of one hundred men and was soon promoted to the first lieutenancy of Company K, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment of Illinois Infantry. He was also given the command of Company G, with the rank of captain. He participated in all engagements with his regiment and went with Sherman on the mem-

orable march to the sea and remained in the service until the close of the war. When the country no longer needed his aid, Captain Ellis returned to Aurora, where he was engaged in the hardware and implement business with Henry Judd as partner. When the Haxton Steam Heating Company of Kewanee opened a Chicago office he was placed in charge. In 1876 he came to Kewanee and there engaged in the drug business with George Brown. Later they erected the brick building now occupied by Hill & King, druggists. After some years Captain Ellis purchased Mr. Brown's interest, carrying on the business alone until November, 1890, when he sold out to Dr. W. H. Day.

He then turned his attention to the banking business and was made president of the First National Bank, which was then located on the present site of the town hall. While he remained chief executive officer the new bank building was erected in 1893. At the November meeting of the board in 1894 he resigned in favor of James K. Blish, who was then vice-president. In 1893, when the great financial panic came, he joined with bankers from twenty-one of the states in forming the Credits Commutation Company of Sioux City, Iowa. He was at once made chairman of the board of directors and was thus active in the step which proved of substantial worth in holding financial interests steady. Some years previous to this, about 1889, the Pacific Short Line Bridge Company had been organized at Sioux City, but after strenuous efforts by the strongest local and a number of other wealthy outside men the company finally failed as the result of the bankruptcy of the Union Loan & Trust Company of that place. The stockholders of the Credits Commutation Company then took hold of the project and renewed the charter under the name of the Combination Bridge Company, of which Captain John Ellis was made president. Upon the completion of the bridge early in the fall of 1895, Captain Ellis, after attending the formal opening of the bridge and the banquet which was given January 21, 1896, by the Sioux City Commercial Association to the Bridge Company, returned to his home and family in Kewanee. In May, 1902, he was recalled to Sioux City on important business of the Bridge Company, where he became ill. His condition grew serious rapidly until the 16th day of May, when he passed away in his apartments at the Garretson Hotel. His remains were brought back to Kewanee for interment and the funeral, which was held May 20, 1906, was one of the most largely attended in Kewanee.

On the 17th of October, 1876, Captain Ellis was married in Kewanee to Miss Alice L. Talcott, a daughter of Joseph A. Talcott, who was born in Coventry, Connecticut, May 12, 1810, and came to this county in 1846, locating in Wethersfield, where he was one of the first settlers and teacher in the public schools. Moving to Kewanee, he for many years served as notary public and was well known and liked by all. Unto Captain and Mrs. Ellis was born one son, John T., whose birth occurred March 13, 1881. He was for ten years in the First National Bank of Kewanee, of which his father was formerly president, but in January, 1908, he resigned his position there. He still occupies the old home with his mother, wife and one child at No. 105 South Tremont street.

Captain Ellis was a staunch republican and in 1856 was appointed delegate to the first republican convention held in Kane county. He was often urged to become a candidate for office but always refused. In 1886 he was made president

of the Kewanee school board and continued to hold that office and serve on the building committee during the erection of the Central building. He held membership in the Masonic fraternity, which had charge of his funeral services. He also belonged to the First Congregational church and took an active part in the business and social affairs of the city in which he lived. He was a man of kindly spirit, liberal and generous, contributing freely to the support of the church and for the promotion of the public welfare. He always took a keen and sincere interest in everything pertaining to the upbuilding and betterment of the city which he called his home and such was his connection with Kewanee that his death brought a sense of personal bereavement to the great majority of the citizens.

---

### HENRY BESTOR.

Henry Bestor, an agriculturist of Henry county, Illinois, who also engages extensively in the raising, feeding and shipping of stock, owning a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township, was born June 19, 1864, a son of Harmon and Sophia (Combs) Bestor, the former a son of Daniel Bestor. When a young man, Harmon Bestor came to Henry county from Ohio and was married in Osco township, where his wife passed away when their only child, Henry Bestor, was but nine months old. The father, however, is still living and now makes his home in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, where he has married a second time and has four sons.

Henry Bestor, upon the death of his mother, was entrusted to the care of her sister, Mrs. Susan Hinman, in whose home in Osco township he was reared and resided until his marriage. His preliminary education was acquired in the common schools, while later he attended the Davenport Business College for two winters. Dutifully appreciative of the home furnished him by his uncle during his earlier boyhood and youth, while not busily engaged with the tasks assigned him in the schoolroom, he industriously devoted his time and energies in the service of his uncle until he reached his eighteenth year, when Mr. Hinman began to pay him wages. Thus he gained a broad and practical knowledge that stood him well in later years when he engaged in the same business on his own account.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Henry Bestor was married on the 19th of October, 1887, to Miss Nellie Purviance, a daughter of David and Hannah (Morton) Purviance, of Osco township, where she was born and reared. For fifteen years they rented a farm, on the expiration of which period, in 1892, Mr. Bestor purchased the home where they now reside. It is situated on section 28, Osco township, this county, and contains one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, which at that time cost him one hundred and fifteen dollars per acre. A good comfortable house now stands in the midst of well cultivated fields and Mr. Bestor has also erected some of the smaller outbuildings, and altogether the farm presents to the passerby a neat and attractive appearance.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bestor has been blessed with two sons: Clyde A., who has attended the Davenport Business College, the same institution where-

in his father acquired a commercial course; and Albert Leo. Always interested in the cause of education, Mr. Bestor served on the school board for thirteen years, and his cooperation is never withheld from any movement for the betterment of the community at large along the line of public-school instruction. A republican in politics, while he never fails to give his support to the party at the polls and exert his influence in behalf of its principles, he is not a politician in the sense of an office-seeker and, with the exception of two years during which time he served as assessor, he has not been active in party ranks. Both he and his wife are members of Grace Episcopal church of Osco, in which he is now serving as vestryman, and have many warm friends in this county, where they have spent their entire lives. Mr. Bestor is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, having his membership in Stewart Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., while both he and his wife are connected with the Order of the Eastern Star, Mrs. Bestor also being a member of the Royal Neighbors.

---

### JAMES YOUNG.

James Young, who for the past fourteen years has successfully engaged in farming in Munson township, was born in Ogle county, Illinois, October 18, 1850, and is a son of James and Ann (McCune) Young. The father was born in Arbroath, Scotland, about 1819, and in 1848 came to the United States, bringing his wife and oldest child with him. He located first in Ogle county, Illinois, then removed to Bureau county, and then in 1853 purchased from his sister the one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in Munson township, Henry county, on which his son lives today. It was a part of a quarter section of land his sister had secured, but was unbroken prairie when he located thereon. He prepared it for the reception of seed, and it remained his home until his death, and the home of his children in their young years. Mrs. Young was also in Arbroath, Scotland, in 1823, and became the mother of eight children: Jane, James, Mary Ann, John, Charles, Margaret, William and Anna. The eldest was born in Scotland, and the fifth has passed away. The father died May 17, 1894, but the mother survived until June 24, 1905.

James Young of this review received a fair education in the country schools and under the guidance of his parents grew to manhood. Until he was twenty-five years of age he worked for his father on the farm, and then, in 1875, went to Wichita, Kansas, to improve a quarter of a section of land which his father had purchased there. After one year he returned to Illinois, to get his bride, and then went again to the Kansas farm, which remained his home for about eighteen years. A year after the death of his father he returned to the home place, which he bought at the administrator's sale. This, since 1895 has been his home and the scene of his labors. Aware of the necessity for hard work he has been well repaid for the time he has spent in cultivating the soil. From long experience he knows the best means of getting results, and the farm which his father first improved has continued to increase in value and fertility in the years it has been in his possession.

On the 25th of November, 1876, Mr. Young married Miss Lizzie Hiser, who was born in Missouri, March 6, 1857, and is a daughter of Joseph and Fanny (Perry) Hiser. The father enlisted in the Union army and died in an army hospital near the close of the war as the result of exposure. The mother also died when her daughter was very young and Mrs. Young was brought up in the Soldiers' Orphan's Home. She was the third in the family of four daughters. Mary, the oldest, married Thomas Cohan, and lives in Davenport, Iowa. Louie died young and Mattie has also passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Young have four sons and two daughters, all born in Wichita, Kansas. They are Charles, who was born December 15, 1877, and died July 8, 1879; Oliver, born December 9, 1881; Callie Beatrice, born April 3, 1885; Olie Belle, born December 15, 1888; John William, born July 15, 1890; and Joseph Lee, born February 7, 1893.

Mr. Young is interested in all that concerns the welfare of his fellow citizens and though he has not sought for public preferment at their hands, for seven years he filled the position of road commissioner with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He has made a name as a diligent man, a good citizen, and has the respect and confidence of his many friends and neighbors.

---

#### PETER A. SAMUELSON.

One of the native sons of Western township, who has won a pronounced success from his farming and the raising and feeding of stock, is Peter A. Samuelson, who owns three farms in different parts of section 26. He was born November 6, 1858, and is a son of Charles M. and Hannah M. (Swanson) Samuelson, both of Swedish birth and both having reached maturity when with their parents they came to this country. Samuel Johnson, the paternal grandfather of our subject, left his Swedish home in 1851 and after having landed in New York went to Buffalo, where he spent the winter. His destination, however, was Andover, this county. Although he came here a poor man, in the course of years he acquired eighty acres of land and a comfortable competence. The maternal grandfather, John Swanson, also became the owner of eighty acres after his advent here. Charles M. Samuelson and his wife began their married life with empty hands, but they were of a race that through generations had learned the necessity for incessant exertion and frugality, so that it is not surprising to know that before the end of his career Mr. Samuelson owned seven-eighths of a section in Western township. Eight children were born to him and his wife and all but one reached maturity. They were: Albert J., who lives in Western township; Peter A., the subject of this sketch; Edward C., of Peculiar, Cass county, Missouri, who married Miss Mary Youngquist and is now the father of three children; Victor J., who died at the age of thirty years; Sophia, who passed away when one year old; Oscar, who lives in Orion and is unmarried; Hannah, who lives in Chicago, where she teaches music; and Minnie, who married William Westerlund, of Chicago, and has three children. The father died February 18, 1904, and the mother in February, 1907. In politics he was ever a republican and held a few of the minor offices of the town-

ship, while he gave his religious support to the Swedish Lutheran church, which his father had helped to organize and of which he was trustee.

Like all the older members of the family Peter A. Samuelson obtained his education in the public schools of this county, while the younger children were able to enjoy better advantages. Until he was thirty years of age he remained with his father, assisting him in the operation of his large farm, and then left the parental roof, for having married he had the natural desire to possess a home of his own. He took up his residence upon the place of eighty acres on which he now lives and which he purchased in 1892, paying sixty-five dollars an acre. In 1896 he bought another place of equal area, which cost him ten dollars more an acre, and sometime later he bought eighty acres more, for which he paid seventy-five dollars per acre. The last addition to his landholdings was eighty acres, which he inherited from his father, bringing his total acreage to three hundred and twenty. Part of this area is devoted to general crops, but much of it is used as pasture land for the large herds of cattle which Mr. Samuelson raises, feeds and ships to market. He has made a signal success from his agricultural pursuits, as any might know who have seen the handsome and commodious home he erected in 1908.

In the church at Andover, June 26, 1889, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Samuelson and Miss Lottie A. Anderson, of Lynn township. She was born, however, in Andover township, March 12, 1861, a daughter of John Otto and Anna Sophia (Youngquist) Anderson, and received a good education in the common schools. Four children have been born of this union: Blanche Harriet, who died in infancy; Clifford Calvin, who passed away at the age of four and a half months; Lester A., who was born September 17, 1897; and Mabel A., who was born March 30, 1900.

Mr. Samuelson has always been a staunch republican but no office seeker, although he has ever taken an active interest in politics. He holds membership in the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he has served as deacon. Industrious, honorable and imbued with strong principles, he enjoys the good-will of those who have come in contact with him, either in business or social intercourse.

---

### HARRY COWELL.

Harry Cowell, who operates two hundred and forty acres of land about a mile and a half east of Nekoma in Weller township and is one of the successful agriculturists of his locality, was born on the Isle of Man, July 23, 1856. His parents, John and Isabella (Skinner) Cowell, were also natives of the same place, which remained their home throughout their lives. The mother died there in 1859, when her son Harry was but three years of age and when she herself was only forty-five years old. The father, however, who had followed the sea throughout his active life, lived until he had passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey.

Harry Cowell received his education in the public schools of his native island, but at that time, although they were denominated public, each pupil had

to pay tuition according to the number of studies he prosecuted. Throughout his young manhood and until 1884 he worked as a farm hand in his old home and then in that year came to the United States, under the belief, which the years have proved was not unfounded, that he could better his fortunes here. For several years after his arrival in Henry county, he found employment upon farms in Galva township and then, in 1888, he leased a tract of eighty acres in that locality, where he lived for two years, gaining there his first experience as an independent farmer. Now he rents a tract of two hundred and forty acres about a mile and a half east of Nekoma. The land is all well improved, is under an excellent state of cultivation, and has been successfully operated, for bountiful harvests have repaid generously his devotion to his life's work. He has devoted the greater part of his land to corn. Having in his youth learned the invaluable lessons of industry and being endowed with a desire to progress, he has succeeded to a degree scarcely hoped for even in his most optimistic moments.

In Cambridge, Illinois, May 21, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Cowell and Miss Margaret G. Elsis, a daughter of William Ellis, a banker on the Isle of Man. Twelve children have been born to them, namely: Margaret E., who died April 10, 1908; Isabella A., who is the wife of James W. Galloway, a farmer in Canada; Florence M., who is twenty years of age and is teaching school; Rose A., who at the age of eighteen is also engaged in teaching; May H., who is seventeen years old and lives at home; Lawrence H., a lad of fifteen who is attending school; Elsie M., who is thirteen years old and is a pupil in the public school; John W., who is eleven years of age and attends school; Lillian G., who at the age of nine is living in Canada, where she is attending school; Charles E., who is seven and has just entered upon his period of instruction; and Phillis V. and Robert E., who at the respective ages of five and two are still at home.

When he became a citizen of this nation Mr. Cowell decided to look to the democratic party for his guidance in political matters, and so confidently does he believe in the value of the principles it enunciates in its platform, that usually he votes the straight ticket. He has, however, taken no part in the local government, but his life, conscientiously lived, might be an example of fine manhood that is worthy of recognition. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen, being an active member of the camp at Nekoma.

---

#### ALEXANDER McAVOY.

Alexander McAvoy, deceased, who for many years carried on agricultural pursuits in Munson township, Henry county, was residing in Geneseo at the time of his demise, having removed to this city upon his retirement from active business life. His birth occurred in Pleasant Mount, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1832, his parents being Paul and Susan McAvoy, and he was one of a family of five children, the others being, Richard, Christopher, Paul and Fannie. He was reared to agricultural life on his father's farm, and re-

mained under the parental roof until the year 1859, when he came alone to Henry county, locating in Munson township. Here he secured employment as a farm hand, in which capacity he continued for nearly three years. In the meantime he was actuated by the ambition of one day being independent, and he labored diligently and perseveringly, carefully saving his earnings, until he had accumulated sufficient capital with which to purchase a farm of his own. He invested in eighty acres of land in Munson township and then returned to his native city, where he was united in marriage on the 25th of February, 1862, to Miss Ann E. McDermott, who had been the girl of his boyhood choice. Mrs. McAvoy's father, Andrew McDermott, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, and when a boy came to the United States with two brothers, settlement being made in Wayne county, Pennsylvania. They worked upon the Delaware and Hudson canal during the summer seasons, the winter months being devoted to clearing farms which they had secured. These farms were located in the wilds of Pennsylvania and no improvements whatever had been made upon them when they came into the possession of the three brothers, panthers, wolves and other wild animals being very numerous throughout the district. Andrew McDermott later wedded Miss Elizabeth Riley, also a native of County Cavan, Ireland, although neither had met until after they had resided in this country some time. She was a maiden of fifteen summers when, with two older brothers and a younger sister, she crossed the Atlantic ocean, and the brothers established a home at Pleasant Mount, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, Mrs. McDermott becoming the housekeeper for the little family, bravely enduring the many hardships incident upon frontier life. Wild animals abounded in the district surrounding their home and many times they were compelled to climb to the roof of the log barn to escape from wolves. It was during this period that her grandfather, Thomas Riley, passed away in County Cavan, Ireland, and the brothers sent for the grandmother, Ellen Riley, who came and made her home with them at Pleasant Mount, Pennsylvania, where her remaining days were spent. Mrs. McAvoy was the eldest in a family of four sons and four daughters born unto Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McDermott. Ellen, the second in order of birth, became the wife of Richard McAvoy, a brother of Alexander McAvoy, of this sketch, and they made their home on a farm in Wayne county, Pennsylvania. They were the parents of several children. Catherine was united in marriage with Christopher McAvoy, another member of the same family, and unto them were born two sons and two daughters. They conducted a hotel at Pleasant Mount, Pennsylvania, up to the time of the husband's death in 1903, since which time the wife has resided on the old homestead with her oldest daughter, Nellie. Louise, the fourth member of the family, wedded Patrick Hannon, and makes her home in Hutchinson, Kansas, where Mr. Hannon has charge of the supply store of the Rock Island Railroad. In their family are three children, Ada, Nora and Mathew. James McDermott married Mary Moran, and lived in Pittston, Pennsylvania, for some time. He was superintendent of a mine at that place, and was killed by a falling timber. He was the father of five children. Thomas was united in marriage to Miss Alice McCabe, who passed away in 1908, leaving four children to mourn her loss. He now resides upon the old homestead at Pleasant Mount, Pennsylvania, of which

he is the owner. John Andrew married Elizabeth Boyle, of Geneseo township, Henry county, Illinois, a daughter of Thomas and Eliza Boyle, her birth occurring in 1887. They resided at Webster City, Iowa, until the time of her death, which occurred in 1899. Later Mr. McDermott was again married, his second union being with Miss Catherine Pritchard, of Omaha, Nebraska, in which city they now make their home. Cornelius, the youngest in the family, is also married and makes his home in Dunmore, a suburb of Scranton, Pennsylvania. He is a traveling salesman and is the father of seven daughters, all grown to maturity and caring for themselves.

Mr. McAvoy, whose name introduces this review, brought his young bride at once to Henry county and during the following summer they resided with a neighboring family while Mr. McAvoy erected a dwelling upon the farm which he had previously purchased. In the fall of 1862 they began housekeeping in their new home, and continued to reside therein until 1890. In 1869 he purchased a tract of eighty acres adjoining his original farm, and later, in 1876, invested in another adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, so that he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the finest farms of its size in the state. He was a man whose knowledge of agriculture was thorough and comprehensive, and his well directed energies brought to him a most gratifying degree of success.

As the years passed Mr. and Mrs. McAvoy became the parents of two sons, namely: Alexander Sherman, who was born on the 13th of January, 1865; and Frederick Joseph, whose birth occurred May 11, 1876. A complete record of the lives of the two sons follows this sketch. Mr. McAvoy continued to engage in agricultural pursuits and remained an active factor in the world's work until 1897, when he retired from business life and took up his residence at Geneseo, Illinois, where his remaining days were spent. He passed away September 13, 1900, and with his death Munson township lost one of its valued and respected citizens who for about forty years had resided within its borders and had taken an active part in the work of development and improvement which has been carried on during that period. He was an honorable and upright gentleman, whose many excellent traits of character won for him the high regard and good will of all with whom he was associated.

---

#### FREDERICK JOSEPH McAVOY.

The agricultural interests of Munson township find a worthy representative in Frederick Joseph McAvoy, who is operating an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 2, the farm being a part of his father's estate. He was born in the house which is now his home on the 11th of May, 1872, his parents being Alexander and Ann (McDermott) McAvoy, of whom extended mention is made in the preceding sketch. His boyhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm in the usual manner of country lads. During the winter months he attended the district schools and later benefited by a course of study in Geneseo Collegiate Institute at Geneseo, where he remained for three years,

becoming well equipped for the practical and responsible duties of life. After completing his education he returned home and assisted his father in the work of the fields until twenty-one years of age, when he entered upon an independent business career as an agriculturist, renting a portion of the home farm and boarding with his parents. He continued in that capacity until twenty-five years of age, when, in the spring of 1897, his father retired from the active duties of business life and removed to Geneseo. At that time his farm, which consisted of three hundred and twenty acres of the finest land to be found in the state, was divided between his two sons, Frederick J. McAvoy retaining the portion upon which the homestead was located. He hired a housekeeper for a few months until he established the foundation of a happy home life of his own in his marriage on the 7th of September, 1897, to Miss Margaret Welsh, of Woodhull, Illinois, where her birth occurred upon a farm. Her parents were James and Isabella (Paul) Welsh, the former now making his home in Oxford township, while the latter passed away in 1903. When he assumed the management of his present farm Mr. McAvoy was well prepared by previous thorough training to carry on the excellent work which his father had begun upon the place, and through modern agricultural methods he has continued to keep the land under a high state of cultivation, being methodical, systematic and progressive in the conduct of his business affairs.

As the years have come and gone the home of Mr. and Mrs. McAvoy has been blessed with three children, namely: Verna, born on the 22d of January, 1899; Edward, whose birth occurred on the 28th of April, 1904; and Elsie, born May 19, 1909. The parents are members of St. Malachi's Catholic church, Mr. McAvoy having been confirmed in that faith in 1887 under Bishop Spalding. They are people of high social standing in the community in which they reside, and are popular with a host of warm friends who entertain for them the utmost respect and good will.

Mr. McAvoy gives his political allegiance to the democratic party but has never sought nor desired public preferment, the only office which he has filled being that of school director, in which he is still serving. He is not unmindful, however, of the responsibilities that devolve upon him as a citizen, but has given unfaltering allegiance to those interests which tend to promote the material, political, intellectual and moral progress of the community and in his business life has conducted his affairs so actively and honorably that he has gained success and also the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

---

#### ALEXANDER SHERMAN McAVOY.

Among the native sons of Munson township who are seeking their fortunes in agricultural lines and by their well directed efforts are meeting with creditable success, is Alexander Sherman McAvoy, whose birth occurred upon a farm of which his present place is a part, in the house now occupied by his brother, Frederick J. McAvoy, whose sketch is found above. Born on the 13th of Jan-

uary, 1865, he is a son of Alexander and Ann Elizabeth (McDermott) McAvoy, full mention of whom is made in this volume.

Reared under the parental roof Alexander S. McAvoy is indebted to the schools of Munson township for the early educational advantages which he enjoyed, while later he profited by a three years' course of study at Geneseo Seminary and received thorough commercial training in the Davenport Business College, of Davenport, Iowa, from which he was graduated. Thus well equipped for the duties of an independent business career, at the age of twenty-two years he began agricultural pursuits on his own account, renting land from his father until the latter's retirement in 1897. He was then given control of one half of his father's estate, of which he became the owner at the latter's death. His farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres of the best soil to be found in the state, and in its midst he has erected good substantial buildings which stand as monuments to his industry and thrift. The soil, which is naturally rich and productive, yields abundant annual harvests, which prove a source of gratifying revenue to him, while his good business ability and close application have gained for him rank among the progressive and prosperous agriculturists of the township.

On the 19th of October, 1886, Mr. McAvoy was united in marriage to Miss Frances M. Critz, of Richmond, Iowa, a daughter of John and Mary Critz, whose acquaintance he made while residing in Davenport, Iowa. Unto this union were born five children, Paul, Albert, Mark, Winnifred and Maude. The eldest, who was born on the 26th of September, 1887, is now clerking in a grocery store in Geneseo. Mr. McAvoy belongs to the Roman Catholic church, having been confirmed in the faith of that church at the age of twenty-one years under Bishop Spalding.

In politics he has not allied himself with any party organization, preferring rather to cast his vote for the men and measures which in his opinion are best adapted to conserve the public good. Nevertheless he is not unmindful of the duties that devolve upon him as a loyal and public-spirited citizen, but does everything in his power to promote the general welfare and progress of the community. Having spent his entire life within the borders of Munson township, he has gained a circle of friends that is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances, and his salient characteristics are such as have gained him the confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

---

#### THOMAS M. HANNON.

Thomas M. Hannon, a farmer on section 25, Geneseo township, was born in Listhole, Ireland, in 1842, and is a son of Matthew and Mary (Callahan) Hannon, both natives of Ireland. The father, a son of Thomas Hannon, a tenant in Listhole, Ireland, came to the United States about 1849 and after remaining in Sandusky, Ohio, a year or two came to Illinois. The Rock Island Railroad was then being built and he secured work upon it as section foreman, a position he held until he became too old to work. After he had been here

about six years and had become fairly well established, he sent for his family—his wife, three sons and a daughter—to join him. They arrived in 1856 and made their home at Bureau Junction, Bureau county, Illinois, for a number of years. In 1867 the family divided, the mother going to live with her son Thomas on his farm, the daughter remaining with her father and brothers for whom she kept house until she married, when the father also came to live with his son. On the farm in Geneseo township Matthew Hannon passed the remainder of his days, and was eighty-four years of age when on the 26th of December, 1896, he was called away. His wife had died eight years before.

Thomas M. Hannon was fourteen years of age when he came to this country and immediately upon his arrival commenced work upon the Rock Island Railroad, being employed in various capacities, from section man to fireman. In 1867 he came to Henry county, locating on the farm which had been bought with his own savings and those of the father, his mother coming with him. Here he has since lived, and to this he brought his bride and here he reared his family. In the forty years and more that he has tilled the farm he has met with success and has secured a comfortable fortune.

On the 31st of March, 1875, Mr. Hannon married Miss Mary Cavanaugh, of Rock Island. She was born in New York city, October 10, 1851, and was a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Quigley) Cavanaugh. The father, who was a son of John Cavanaugh, was a native of Dublin, Ireland, while his wife was born in County Limerick. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hannon. Matthew, born February 26, 1876, is unmarried and lives at home. Agnes, born November 5, 1878, married Henderson Frew, who lives in Atkinson. Grace, born December 25, 1880, is unmarried and teaches in the schools of Geneseo. She makes her home with her parents. Daniel, born April 13, 1882, is the principal of the consolidated schools at Scotland, Illinois. Cecelia, born August 20, 1884, teaches in the country schools of Henry county and lives with her parents. Thomas, born July 18, 1887, is also at home. Elizabeth, the youngest, was born January 27, 1891. Surrounded by his family Mr. Hannon is in the enjoyment of a tranquility that is very gratifying to him as he looks back over the long years and their many hardships. Though he has a natural attachment for the land of his birth, he cannot regret that his father came to this country and gave to his family advantages they should never have had there. He is now the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is well improved with good and substantial buildings.

---

#### WILLIAM HARVEY WITHROW.

William Harvey Withrow, one of the substantial farmers of Phenix township, was born in the house he now occupies, April 5, 1862, being a son of Amariah Withrow, a sketch of whom is to be found in this work. His boyhood was spent on this farm and he was given a fair common school education. Until he attained his majority he worked for his father and then began farming by the day among neighbors. In this way he earned money to buy the neces-

sary farming implements and a team, and then he began operating his uncle's farm in Hanna township. For two years he continued there, afterward going to his paternal grandfather's farm. About 1892 he removed to his father's farm, which has since been his home. He also owns one hundred and four acres adjoining and operates both properties. At one time he owned eighty acres in Hardin township,, for which he paid thirty-one dollars per acre, but he later sold it at a profit.

On August 30, 1887, Mr. Withrow was married in Geneseo township, to Miss Perilezette Merrimen, of Phenix township, a daughter of William and Margaret (Carse) Merrimen, who are now residing in Germany. While Mr. Withrow is an earnest republican he is not an office seeker. He belongs to Camp No. 40, M. W. A., and enjoys his association with his fellow members. An excellent farmer, good business man and reliable citizen, Mr. Withrow has not only succeeded in material things, but he has won the confidence and friendship of those with whom he has been brought in contact and is admitted to be one of the representative agriculturalists of Phenix township.

---

#### ASHER BEATTY LOVE.

One of the successful agriculturists of Western township is Asher Beatty Love, who operates a farm of one hundred and fifty-three acres belonging to his father. He was born in this township, May 1, 1875, his parents being James A. and Anna (Beatty) Love. The father was of Irish birth and parentage, but was a mere child when the family came to America in 1849. They settled first in Pennsylvania, where his father died, leaving his mother to rear their family of ten children. About 1871 she brought her family to Illinois, where several of the sons became interested in agriculture. In Western township James A. Love was married, and in the course of years became one of the successful farmers of his locality.

Asher Beatty Love was reared upon the farm which is now his home and attended the common schools of his district. Since he has assumed the management of his father's place, he has given more and more attention to the raising and feeding of stock, from which he has derived an income commensurate with that obtained from purely agricultural pursuits. The fields which are under his control have been cultivated with a care that bespeaks his skill as a farmer, while the improvements which adorn the place demonstrate his thrift, economy and good management—qualities which are as necessary as industry in the prosecution of agricultural work.

On the 29th of June, 1905, at Kent, Iowa, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Love and Miss Susan Jeanette Campbell. She was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, is a daughter of Thomas Campbell, and was visiting in Orion when she met Mr. Love. She died April 11, 1909, on Easter Sunday. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Orion and Mr. Love also has given to it his support and allegiance. In political matters he affiliates with the republican party, but he has never aspired to any office with-

in the gift of the people, although, considering the high regard in which he is held by his fellow citizens, there can be little doubt as to the loyal support he would receive.

---

### HARRY BROADBENT.

Harry Broadbent is one of the young farmers and stockmen of Cornwall township whose industry and enterprise are meeting with well deserved success. He was born on the place where he now resides January 1, 1886, and is a son of Robert and Jane (Winters) Broadbent. The father was a native of Yorkshire, England, and was about thirty years of age when in 1855 he emigrated to America. After landing at New York he came to Henry county, whither his brother William had come the year before, and here he worked by the month until able to engage in farming on his own account. Then he rented the farm on which his son Harry now lives and the next year bought eighty acres for thirty dollars per acre. He was frugal, energetic and a good business man, so that every year brought a substantial increase in his income, and as he was able he invested his money in farm property until he owned at one time six hundred acres in Henry county and two hundred and forty acres in Arkansas. As these large landholdings represented the results of his labor after he came to this country, he had no reason to regret his decision to establish a home here. A large circle of friends mourned his loss when on the 23d of June, 1908, he passed away. He had espoused the cause of the democracy upon becoming a citizen of this republic but never sought public office.

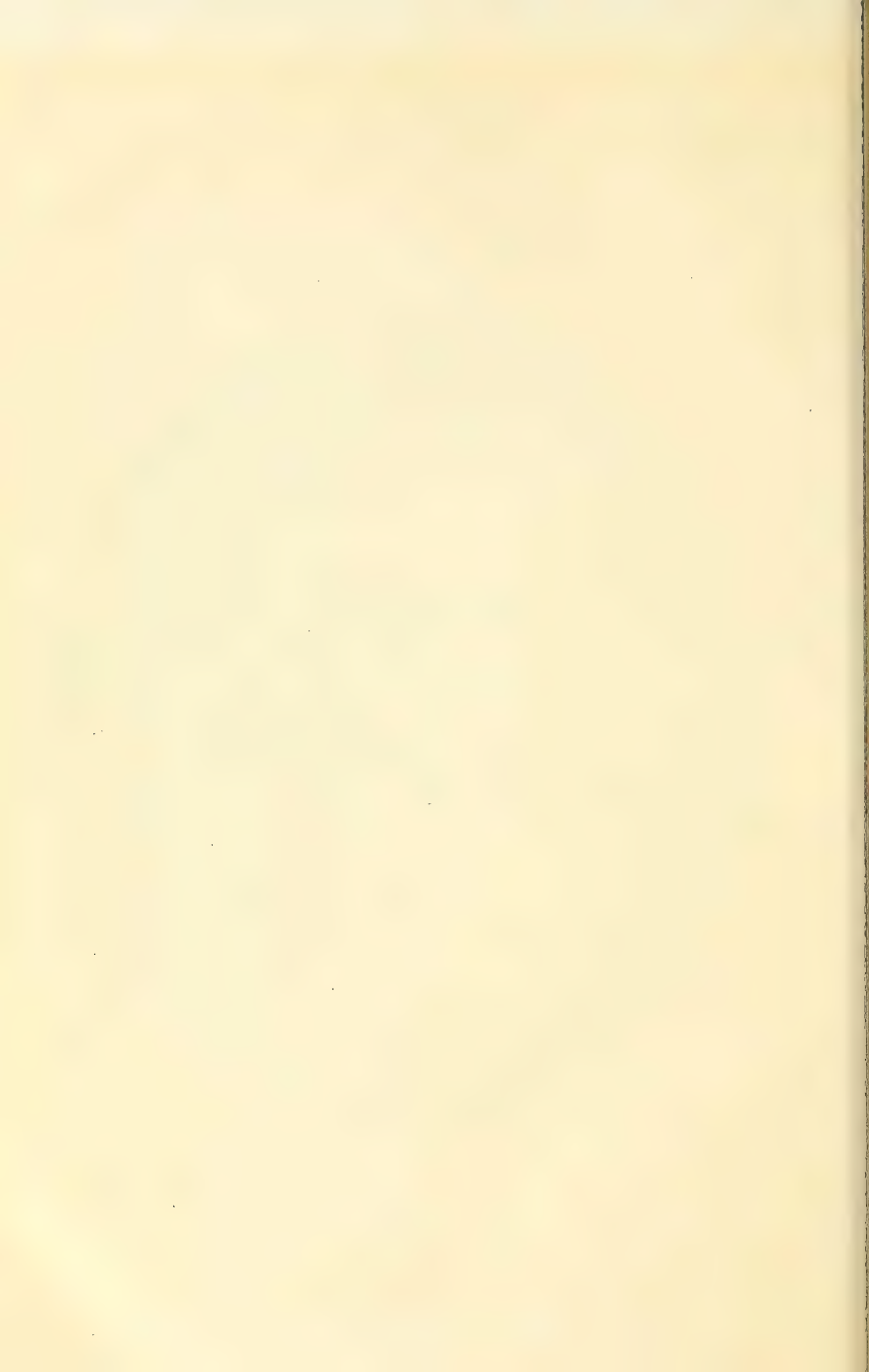
Before coming to this country Robert Broadbent had married but his wife died in England, and he crossed the Atlantic alone. In 1856 he wedded the woman who became the mother of his children. She was a native of Manchester, England, where she grew to womanhood and married Mr. Modd, by whom she had two children. Later she became the wife of Edward Gash and they had four children, while by her union with Mr. Broadbent three children were born. Hannah, the oldest, became the wife of August Schuetts and they had one child. After his death she married Albert Schuetts, and they are now living near Stuttgart, Arkansas. Robert Irvin, living in Cornwall township, wedded Miss Otte Paxton and they have two children. Harry is the subject of this sketch. The mother died in December, 1906.

The days of his youth passed busily for Harry Broadbent, for in addition to attending the district school he devoted all his spare time to farm work, so that before he reached man's estate he was thoroughly familiar with agricultural pursuits. Upon the death of his father he inherited two hundred and forty acres of land, a part lying on section 24, Cornwall township, which is his home, and the remainder on sections 18 and 19, Annawan township. The soil which is rich and arable, is devoted to general farming in which Mr. Broadbent has engaged, also as pasturage for the stock he raises. He has shown good business judgment in the conduct of his affairs and his labors are fittingly rewarded.

On the 13th of August, 1908, Mr. Broadbent was united in marriage to Miss Letha Marietta Hull, a daughter of Jacob H. and Frances Alma (Grubbs) Hull.



MR. and MRS. ROBERT BROADBENT



She was born in Brooklyn, Iowa, September 22, 1887, and with the exception of three years spent her early life in her birth place. At the age of seventeen she came to Atkinson to live and there met Mr. Broadbent.

Politically Mr. Broadbent is a democrat, although he is in strong sympathy with the principles of the prohibition party while his religious faith is manifested by his membership in the United Brethren church of Fairview, to which his wife also belongs. Both are closely identified with church and Sunday-school work and in their lives exemplify the teachings of Christianity. Actuated by a laudable ambition, he has already met with well deserved success and a profitable future undoubtedly awaits him.

---

### JOHN F. WILLARD.

Among the men that came to Henry county in pioneer days, subdued the wilderness and laid the foundations for business development through the utilization of the natural resources here afforded, was numbered John F. Willard, and as one of the honored early settlers we present his history to our readers, many of whom well remember him as a man of sterling worth. He came from Weathersfield, Connecticut, in the fall of 1836. His birth there occurred June 18, 1805, and in the place of his nativity he was reared and educated. Having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Mary A. Wells.

John F. Willard was reared to the occupation of farming and when he came to Henry county he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits and afterward entered the nursery business, establishing a nursery in which he produced and sold stock of various kinds, including trees and shrubbery. He also conducted a greenhouse and his business interests grew and developed along that line, his becoming one of the important industries of the district. The latter part of his life was devoted entirely to raising fruit and he became widely known as a leading horticulturist of the community. In connection with Mr. Little he built the first log cabin in the neighborhood in which he established his home and there in that primitive dwelling he experienced all of the hardships and privations incident to the pioneer settler who with resolute purpose overcame all difficulties and obstacles that confronted him in order to make a home in a hitherto unsettled region. He recognized the richness of the western prairies and as the years passed he prospered in his labors. His death occurred September 23, 1874, while his wife survived him for about four years, being called to her final rest on the 24th of September, 1878. He was a lifelong Christian and a devoted member of the Congregational church, in the work of which he took active and helpful part, serving as deacon of the church and as superintendent of the Sunday school. His business probity, his reliability in every relation of life and his kindly and considerate spirit were qualities which have made his memory cherished and honored among all who knew him.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard are still survived by a daughter, Mrs. Sarah Adeline Mowitt, who yet resides in Wethersfield. She had four children, three of whom are living. Mary, the eldest, is the wife of A. F. Mulholland, of Wethersfield,

who is with the National Tube Company, and their children are four in number: Mary Ruth, Frederick A., Susan Margaret and Herbert M. John P. Mowitt, a farmer now residing at Grinnell, Iowa, married Miss Sarah Bruce, of that state, and they have three children: Gaylord W., Wiley A. and George W. Gaylord T. Mowitt, also living in Grinnell, Iowa, where he represents the United States Express Company, wedded Mary James of that state and has two children, Donald and Willard.

Mrs. Mowitt has a brother William O. Willard who was born November 2, 1840, in Wethersfield and was there reared. He remained a resident of his native town until 1869 when he removed to Grinnell, Iowa. For years he conducted a nursery business there but at the present time he is the owner of a farm largely devoted to the cultivation of fruits. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted, in 1861, with the boys in blue, Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years, and at the expiration of his term he reenlisted and continued with the army until the close of the war. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and in other important engagements, but on account of illness was taken from the ranks and was assigned to the duty of carrying mail for a year. He married Emma Shaw and unto them were born five children: Frank, who is now superintendent of schools in Seattle, Washington, who is married and is the father of Donald, Dudley, and Dougherty Willard; William, who is the teacher of science in a college in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is married and has one child; Henry, a practicing physician of Deer Lodge, Montana; Ruth M., who is the librarian at Grinnell, Iowa; and Faith Ella, who is residing in Seattle, Washington.

Such in brief is the history of the Willard family which for seventy-three years has been represented in Henry county. Only four years had elapsed after the Black Hawk war when John Willard and his wife arrived in Wethersfield and there were still many traces of Indian occupancy in various parts of the state. The great, broad, rolling prairies of Illinois were largely unbroken by the plowshare, but the land was naturally rich and fertile and responded readily to the labors of the agriculturist. As the years passed he bore his full share in the work of general progress and improvement and maintained a place as one of the representative and honored pioneer residents of the county.

---

#### WILLIAM LAMB, SR.

Among the many European countries which have contributed stalwart sons to the upbuilding of this land is Scotland, and one of these Scotchmen is William Lamb, Sr., who, though not permitted to live long in this republic, had a wife, sons and daughters who have rendered valuable service to the nation and to An-nawan, Illinois, in particular. He was born in Selkirk, Scotland, in 1813. In the old country he and his father, who also bore the name William, were engaged in what is here known as the nursery business. The older man did not come to this country, preferring to pass his days in the land of his birth. The younger man came to the United States in 1848 or 1849, and after spending a few years in

Boston came west to Illinois, settling in Morris, where he filled the position of station agent. In 1854 he removed to Annawan, there also obtaining the position of station agent, which he held for two years, or until his death. His body was buried in Annawan. On becoming a citizen of this country Mr. Lamb gave his political support to the republican party, while his religious allegiance was given to the Presbyterian church, of which he had been a stanch adherent from his childhood. From his church society in Scotland he had received a beautiful silver plate bearing his name and the place of his birth. This his son, Robert H. Lamb, has in his possession, and he in turn will bequeath it to his son, it being understood that the plate is to remain in the family as an heirloom.

At his death Mr. Lamb left a widow and nine children. Mrs. Lamb bore the maiden name of Margaret Muir Bowie and was a daughter of John Bowie, a linen draper in the old country, who was a man of wealth and refinement and was able to give his children the very best advantages in the way of education and culture. His children have now all passed away but during their lifetime they were highly respected in their respective communities. Mrs. Lamb was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, January 26, 1816, and in that city not only received a good education in the common branches of English instruction but also in the Latin and French languages. She attained a high degree of proficiency in the latter, being able both to speak and write it fluently, and after coming to Annawan for several years had a class of twenty or more to whom she gave French lessons. She was also talented and educated in music as well, was an accomplished pianist, and when she came to America with her husband brought her own piano with her. The instrument is still in existence and is valued highly partly because of its rosewood case which in these days is quite a rarity. Music always made a subtle appeal to Mrs. Lamb that diminished not at all with her advancing years, for on Saturday evening, three nights before her death, she seated herself at the piano and played as she had on every Saturday evening for many, many years. She was eighty-four at the time of her death and during the last thirty-four years of her life was the postmaster at Annawan. The duties of the office she had assumed December 20, 1866, and had administered actively until within four years of her death, though during all this period she had the invaluable and devoted assistance of her daughter, Miss Joanna Lamb, who is now the postmaster.

Mrs. Lamb was one of a family of eleven children and was the mother of nine. Seven of these were born in Scotland, one in Boston and one in Morris, Illinois. The three eldest daughters received their education in the old country, as did the youngest son who was taken to his mother's home on a visit when he was nine years of age and left there to attend school. Catherine Tate, the eldest of the family, became the wife of Joseph Stevens. Both are now deceased but their four children survive: William T., a farmer of Annawan, Illinois; Margaret, unmarried, who makes her home with her brother; Charles, a freight conductor whose home is in Annawan; and Lottie, who is unmarried. Mary Roe, the second of Mrs. Lamb's children, was a teacher in the schools of Henry county and in her early womanhood married Theodore Smith. Both are now dead. William Lamb, Jr., was a baggageman on the Rock Island Railroad. He died in 1855, at the age of twenty-one years, and was buried by the side of his parents in Annawan. Margaret became the wife of John L. Dow, who died

some years ago in Davenport, Iowa. She now lives in Des Moines, Iowa, and is the mother of two daughters and two sons: Mary Ella, the wife of Charles Posche, of St. Joseph, Missouri; Jennie, the wife of Hugh Shuler, of Des Moines, Iowa; Lyford T., who lives in Davenport, Iowa, and has one son, Courtney; and Josiah H., who lives in Winterset, Iowa, and has two children, Margaret Isabella and John Lyford. Isabella, the fifth of Mrs. Lamb's children, married Caleb F. Swoyze and lives in Annawan. They have four children: Ella, who is the wife of G. A. Mallory, of Annawan, and has two children, Catherine and Isabella; Roy, unmarried, engaged in cement work; Jessie Rae, who married Harry M. Dewey and lives in Camp Grove, Illinois, where her husband is engaged in the elevator business; and Robert Lamb, who lives at home.

Joanna, the sixth child of Mr. and Mrs. Lamb, received her education in Scotland, but from her mother obtained her knowledge of music and culture. From the time Mrs. Lamb entered upon her duties as postmistress in 1866, until her death in 1900, Miss Joanna Lamb was her able assistant and then filled out the mother's unexpired term. When her nephew, Lyford L. Dow, was appointed to the office Miss Lamb continued to do all the work and to draw the pay through his term of four years, and then upon the failure of his health was herself appointed to the position in 1905. She is now serving her second term, to the great satisfaction of all the community, and from half past five in the morning till six in the evening her sunny smile greets the people as they come for their mail; almost daily for she never has a full holiday except Sunday. She is painstaking, intelligent and energetic, and while these qualities have won appreciation from her patrons, her unvarying kindness to her mother and her filial care of her gained for her their affection and admiration. The comfortable home on State street, in which she has her rooms, she inherited from her mother; the greater part of the house, however, she rents to a family.

Robert Henry, the seventh child, was born in Boston, Massachusetts. He received his education in Scotland, his mother having taken him with her when she made a visit to her old home and left him there. He is now a hardware merchant in Kewanee, Illinois, and the father of two children, William Campbell and Theresa Marie, by his marriage to Miss May Cronaw, of Kewanee, where her parents still live. Ellen J., the youngest of this large family, was educated in the schools of Annawan and after graduating from the high school here taught for six years in the primary room. She married David A. Jones and lives in Moline, Illinois, where her husband is a real-estate agent. They have three children: Luella, who is unmarried; Mary Roe, who is the wife of George B. Dobson, a civil engineer of Des Moines, Iowa, and the mother of one child, John; and Robert, who at the age of eighteen is a student at Mount Vernon, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamb were proud of their birthplace and perhaps no one at the time of death commanded greater respect than did Mrs. Lamb for, being left with a large family, by industry, great economy, and many sacrifices she was able to give them all an education. They in turn assisted her, so that her closing years were passed in very comfortable circumstances. Having been reared in affluence, and even luxury, the hardships and privations of her life in

this country were something unforeseen by her, and yet she fulfilled her duties without a murmur or a vain regret and felt duly rewarded in the devotion of her children and the admiration of her friends. She returned twice to her native heath, once in 1857, when she took her two youngest children with her and left her son to be educated and then in 1876 when she went alone. On each occasion she remained one year.

Miss Lamb, who is the present postmaster and for more than forty years has handled the mails in Annawan, is also a woman highly regarded in this community. Her service is most efficient, and this has won admiration, but her sunny disposition and bright smile and her devotion to her aged mother have made her beloved among those who have come to know her.

---

### CHARLES E. STURTZ.

In no profession does success depend as largely upon individual effort and merit as in the practice of law. Comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and ability to correctly apply its principles to the points in litigation are the concomitants of success and these are based upon a thorough and careful preparation of each case. Charles E. Sturtz, for sixteen years a practitioner at the Kewanee bar, seems to possess all of the attributes necessary to success for he has won in the courts many notable forensic combats. Pennsylvania numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, not far from Cumberland, Maryland, on the 9th of November, 1864. His parents, Charles and Catherine (Kennell) Sturtz, were also natives of the same county and were representatives of old families of the Keystone state. In 1869 they left the east and came to Illinois, settling near Sterling, Whiteside county, where they have since made their home, the father having engaged in farming throughout the intervening period, until 1902 when he moved to Sterling where he is now residing.

Charles E. Sturtz acquired his preliminary education in the common schools of Whiteside county and later attended Dixon College, after which he engaged in teaching school in Whiteside county for four years. The hours which are usually devoted to recreation and pleasures were given by him during that period to the study of law under the direction of Mannahan & Ward, attorneys of Sterling. He also took his Blackstone with him on pedagogic expeditions and feeling the necessity of further general knowledge as a preparation for a professional career, in the fall of 1887 he entered Knox College at Galesburg and was there graduated in 1891, the degree of Bachelor of Science being at that time conferred upon him. In the periods of vacation he continued to pursue his law studies and after leaving Knox College he entered the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, winning the Bachelor of Law degree in 1892. The same year he was admitted to the bar and his preliminary professional experience was gained during the year which he spent in the law office of Otis & Graves at Chicago. In 1893 he came to Kewanee, where he has built up an extensive practice of an important character. His

mind during the entire period of his course at the bar has been directed in the line of his profession and his duty. He has argued many cases and lost but few. No one better knows the necessity for thorough preparation and no one more industriously prepares his cases than he. His analysis of the facts is clear and exhaustive; he sees without effort the relation and dependence of the facts and so groups them as to enable him to throw their combined forces upon the point they tend to prove. His handling of his cases is always full, comprehensive and accurate; he examines a witness carefully and thoroughly but treats him with the respect which makes the witness grateful for his kindness and forbearance; toward the court he is always courteous and deferential; and while his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial he never forgets that he owes a still higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. In 1903 he was elected states attorney and has been elected three times since so that he is the present incumbent in the office. He had previously served as city attorney, having been elected in 1894, 1895 and 1896 for terms of one year each, while in 1899 he was reelected for a two years' term.

On the 16th of September, 1892, Mr. Sturtz was married to Miss Allie C. Price of Neponset, Illinois, a daughter of Joseph Price, now residing in Kewanee. They have two daughters, Zola May and Katherine. Mr. Sturtz is prominent in Masonry, having attained high rank in the order and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Elks and Knights of Pythias and his political allegiance has always been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served as secretary of the board of education for several years, his membership on the board covering altogether a period of nine years. His devotion to the public good has been evidenced in many ways and he is known as a progressive citizen, whose labors in behalf of Kewanee in the sixteen years of his residence here have been far-reaching, effective and beneficial.

---

#### GEORGE E. TROLINE.

George E. Troline, an energetic and successful agriculturist of Galva township, makes his home on section 30, where he owns a fine farm of one hundred acres. His birth occurred in Galva township, Henry county, Illinois, on the 22d of October, 1861, his parents being Eric and Christine (Olson) Olson, both of whom were born at Helsingland, Sweden. The paternal grandfather, Eric Sundell, passed away in that country when about eighty years of age. His wife, Mrs. Betsy Sundell, died in early womanhood. Their children were four in number. Peter Hast, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a farmer by occupation and died of pneumonia when fifty-two years of age. In 1812 he served as an officer in the war in Sweden, in which country his demise occurred. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Miss Olson, died while making the ocean voyage from Sweden to the United States, at which time she was about fifty-one years of age. She was the mother of three daughters and a son, namely: Brita, Anna, Christine and Eric.

Eric Olson, the father of George E. Troline, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1846 and became one of the pioneer settlers of this county, taking up his abode with the Bishop Hill colony and assisting in dividing the lands. Each settler received twenty-two acres and he remained with the colony until it was disbanded. Subsequently he purchased sixty acres of land in Galva township and made his home on that farm until called to his final rest on the 25th of June, 1899, when he had attained the age of eighty-two years and seven months. He was engaged in the manufacture of brick and made the brick for nearly all of the buildings in Bishop Hill, and was also head man in the timber and sawmill business. The period of his residence in this county covered more than five decades and he was well known and highly esteemed within its borders as a most respected and worthy citizen. In religious faith he was a Lutheran. He was twice married and his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Betsy Olson and whom he wedded in 1840, passed away in 1847. They had two children, one of whom died in early life. The other, Catharine, is now the widow of August Livine, who for four years loyally defended the interests of the Union as a soldier in the Civil war. In her girlhood days she underwent all of the hardships and privations of pioneer times while living in the Bishop Hill colony with her parents, and in 1871 she removed to Clay Center, Kansas, where she once more experienced the vicissitudes of life in a sparsely settled and undeveloped region. She still makes her home at Clay Center. The second wife of Eric Olson and the mother of Mr. Troline of this review passed away on the 14th of June, 1905, at the age of eighty-one years, seven months and twelve days. For several years she acted as head nurse in Bishop Hill. By her marriage she became the mother of four children, of whom our subject is the only survivor, the other three having died in infancy.

George E. Troline was reared on his father's farm in Galva township and supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the district schools, by a course in the Galva high school. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and subsequent to his marriage purchased the old homestead farm, which he has since owned and operated. The property comprises one hundred acres of good farming land and also a five-acre tract of timber. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of success, annually gathering good harvests as a reward of the intelligence which he displays in the planting and cultivation of his crops.

On the 27th of December, 1891, Mr. Troline was united in marriage to Miss Hulda C. Ringborg, a native of Sweden and a daughter of Andrew and Carolina (Jacobson) Ringborg, who were likewise born in that country. The father was born December 2, 1829, in Skolvened, Socken, Elsbors Lan. He came from Sweden to the United States in 1869, making his way to Andover, Illinois. In that locality he devoted his attention to farming. His father, whose name was Andres Ein, died in 1836 at the age of sixty years. He was a soldier in the Finnish war and was in seven battles. The mother died in 1866 at the age of seventy-two years. In the family were ten children, of whom two died in infancy, while five lived to a ripe old age, two being more than eighty-five years of age at the time of their death. The first wife of Andres Ein had two chil-

dren, but the daughter died in infancy, while the son lived to the age of seventy years. In 1862 Andrew Ringborg was married to Miss Carolina Jacobson, who was born in Roksocken, Ostergottan, Sweden, October 9, 1839. They became the parents of the following children: John Alfred, who was born May 4, 1863, and is yet living in Sweden; Carl August, who was born in November, 1864; Hulda C., who was born December 11, 1866, and came to the United States in 1870; Emma, who was born in 1868 and died in infancy; Ellen D., who was born June 18, 1871, and is now the wife of Hans Paulson, of California; Augusta Matilda, who was born December 3, 1872, and is the wife of Peter Benson; Ida Otilia, who was born November 10, 1874, and is the wife of Edward Hultgren; and Anna Sophia, who was born December 8, 1886, and is the wife of Henry Nelson, who is now deputy sheriff of Riverside county, California. The grandmother of Mrs. Ringborg was born in 1809 in Ekeborg, Trehoma, Socken, Ostergottan, Sweden, and died at the age of eighty-two years. Her husband was born in May, 1813, and died November 1, 1857. They were married in 1833 and had six children, of whom three died in infancy, while three are still living: Anna, Carolina and Franz August, aged respectively seventy-six, seventy and sixty-eight years. The great-grandmother was Hulda Maria Christina and she was born in Ekeborg. The great-grandfather was born in Sweden, four generations of the family being born in the same house.

Mr. and Mrs. Troline are now the parents of four children: Vincent E. R., Mildred C. C., Myrtle H. and Minerva M. Mr. Troline gives his political allegiance to the democracy and has served as a school director for nine years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen and also to the Valhalla Society. As he has lived in this county throughout his entire life, he has a wide acquaintance here and his friends know him as an enterprising agriculturist and a man of genuine worth.

---

### JOHN F. NOWERS.

John F. Nowers, a leading citizen of Atkinson, Illinois, and the organizer of the only bank in that place, was born in Oswego county, New York, January 20, 1837. His father, Thomas Nowers, was born in Hastings, England, in August, 1805, and came to America in 1828, crossing the ocean in one of the old sailing vessels which required eleven weeks to make a journey that can now be made in half as many days. In his native town he had been engaged in mercantile business, but upon landing in New York he started a large sawmill, which he operated for about twenty years. In 1849, seeking the best interests of his family, he came west to Illinois, settling in Mercer county, where he took up farming. In 1860 he gave up agricultural pursuits and for a year conducted a flourishing business in grain and general merchandise, and then retired from active life. In 1866 and 1871 he made two pleasure trips to his native home, but he was as loyal to the land of his adoption as if he had been born here. Always distinguished by his great energy and industry, he unselfishly devoted a good deal of time to public affairs, for from 1856 to 1860 he was treasurer of

Henry county, and he took an active interest in the soldiers and their widows during the Civil war. Upon becoming a citizen of this republic he joined the ranks of the whigs, and when the republican party was organized he became one of its loyal supporters. Reared in the faith of the Episcopal church he always attended its services. He died in the latter part of May, 1888, and was laid to rest in Grand View cemetery, Atkinson. Decima Foster, who became his wife and the mother of his children, was born in Hortrup, England, October 26, 1807, and was the tenth daughter born to her parents. She came to this country on the same ship as her husband and after arriving in New York lived with an older married sister. In 1829 she became the wife of Thomas Nowers, with whom she lived as a devoted wife until her death March 22, 1875. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowers: Thomas and William, both deceased; John F., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Elizabeth Lyons, a resident of Atkinson; Mrs. Mary Walters and Mrs. Louise Mussey, also of that city; and James, now living retired from active life in Atkinson.

John F. Nowers received his education in Mercer county, and at first pursued his studies in a little log schoolhouse. He is very loyal to his early teachers and to them gives much of the credit of the instruction that made possible his success when he grew to manhood. When he was sixteen years of age he began work as a farm hand, in which he continued for four years, and then found employment as traveling salesman with Mr. McCormick, the father of the whole reaper industry. His territory embraced Scott, Henry, Cedar, Muscatine and other counties, and for about six years he was very successful. In 1866 he and his brother Thomas bought their father's general store, which they conducted for about nineteen years, selling their interests in 1885 to engage in the banking business. In March, 1881, they opened a small bank in connection with the mercantile business, and the public support which this venture was accorded convinced them of the need of a well organized financial institution. Thomas Nowers was made president, and since his death, which occurred September 17, 1907, no other has been appointed to his place. John F. Nowers has been the cashier since the beginning, and has had a guiding hand upon its financial policy. Being the first bank organized in Atkinson, it remains the only one to this day, and its organizer has no competitor in Atkinson's commercial life. In 1866 Mr. Nowers erected his first home, and in 1901 built the house on Main and School streets in which he now resides. He owns considerable farm land in Henry county in addition to the property he holds in Atkinson, and though he began his life humbly enough he has attained to a position of wealth and influence.

Mr. Nowers has been married twice. His first wife was Miss Lorena A. Wright, who was of New England birth but came to Illinois in her early childhood. She died April 24, 1890, and was buried in Aledo, Mercer county, where her parents also rest. Two children were born of this union, one who died at the age of two months, the other when seven years old. On the 20th of September, 1894, Mr. Nowers married Mrs. Elizabeth P. Swaney, nee Carson, who was of Pennsylvanian birth. Her mother, who was Miss Catherine K. Posey before her marriage, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and was a daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Care) Posey. She died January 24, 1903, on

her seventy-ninth birthday, and is buried in Ottawa, La Salle county, Illinois. Mrs. Nowers' father is John B. Carson, who was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania in 1822. In the spring of 1865 he came to Illinois and engaged in farming in Ottawa, where he still lives. Mr. and Mrs. Carson became the parents of ten children, five of whom died before they came west. Of the others, Annie became the wife of O. E. Harding, of Hinsdale, Montana. Elizabeth is the wife of J. F. Nowers. John J. H., who has remained unmarried, is a stockman in Atkinson. Mrs. Luberta M. Cleave lives in Ottawa and her father makes his home with her. Frances, the youngest, is the wife of F. D. Ketchum, who is chief inspector of the animal bureau of South St. Paul, Minnesota. After completing the high-school course in Kentland, Indiana, Mrs. Nowers attended the normal school that is now known as the University of Valparaiso. She engaged in teaching for a number of years and when she married Mr. Nowers was principal of the school in Wethersfield, Henry county, a position she had held for two years. No children have been born to Mr. Nowers' second union, but by her first husband Mrs. Nowers had two sons. Ralph J., born in Chicago, Illinois, January 22, 1885, is an industrious and energetic young man and is at present conducting his parents' farm. Frank C., born in Iroquois county, Illinois, October 13, 1886, is a graduate of the Chicago Veterinary College and holds a responsible government position in Montana.

Like his father, Mr. Nowers is a firm believer in the principles of the republican party, but he has never sought any office, although he has filled positions on the school board from time to time. Wealthy, prominent and influential, he is withal modest and unassuming, sincere in his relations with others and kind-hearted toward all who appeal to him. Mrs. Nowers also is gracious and pleasant and modest of her many accomplishments. The home of which she is mistress is distinguished by its beauty, good taste and refinement, and is frequently the scene of congenial gatherings, for she has made many friends, both among her sisters of the Eastern Star and in the city at large.

---

#### CHARLES YOCUM.

Among the venerable pioneers of Henry county is Charles Yocum, who has resided in Galva, Illinois, since 1866. Born in York county, Pennsylvania, October 11, 1811, he has now reached the advanced age of ninety-eight years though still retaining a vigorous constitution, hardened by exposure incident to frontier life, and all of his mental faculties, that have only been ripened and strengthened through the passing years. His parents, Elijah and Catharine (Wagner) Yocum, were also natives of the Keystone state and unto them were born nine children, seven of whom reached maturity, but at the present time Charles is the only survivor of the family.

Elijah Yocum was a carpenter by occupation in his early manhood but later turned his attention to manufacturing carding machines. Becoming imbued with the spiritual enthusiasm of those early days of religious freedom in this country, when he was forty years of age he became a local Methodist preacher,

ministering to the spiritual needs of the few scattered congregations in his circuit. At that time he removed to Ohio, settling near Wooster, where he purchased a half section of land, which had only been partially cleared. He also built a grist mill, hiring a miller to attend to that branch of his business, while he bent his energies to the improvement and cultivation of his farm. He had made several trips to Illinois but resided on his place near Wooster until his death, which occurred September 27, 1867, when he had reached the ripe old age of eighty-four years. His wife passed away just eleven years previous to his demise when she was sixty-five years of age.

The paternal grandfather of Charles Yocum was John Yocum, who was also a native of Pennsylvania and resided twenty miles above Harrisburg on the Juniata river. He was of Scotch descent and a farmer by occupation. He married Mary Thomas and both passed away when they were about eighty-four years old. Their family numbered eleven children: Lydia, Elijah, Charles, Elizabeth, Abraham, Jesse, John, Mary, Andrew, Rebecca, and Elmore, who has now been a presiding elder in the Methodist Episcopal church for the past thirty years. John Wagner, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was, as his name indicates of German parentage. His birth occurred in the Keystone state and he, too, devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. Both he and his wife Mary lived to be eighty-five years of age, passing away in the same year. Two sons and two daughters were born to them, namely: Frederick, Jacob, Catharine and Susan.

Charles Yocum, whose name introduces this record, resided in the state of his nativity until fifteen years of age, at which time he accompanied his parents on their removal from York county, Pennsylvania, to Ohio, where his father had purchased a half section of land. The present public-school system of Pennsylvania did not then exist and schools were maintained by subscriptions. Born and reared under these conditions, Charles Yocum acquired as much knowledge of English learning as was attainable in the Keystone state in that generation and after his removal further pursued his studies in the common schools of Ohio. After having resided in the latter state for twelve years, he came to Illinois in 1838 and settled in Peoria county, where he bought land and engaged in farming. Later he built and operated a carding mill for six years, at the expiration of which time he returned to his former occupation. The year 1866 witnessed his arrival in Galva, where he engaged in the lumber business for five years, since which time he has lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest after so many years of unremitting toil.

On the 18th of March, 1834, was celebrated the marriage of Charles Yocum and Miss Mary Smith, who was born in Lancaster county, Ohio, February 21, 1814, and was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Butler) Smith, both of whom were born in Delaware. Seven children were born to that union, one son and six daughters: Catherine is keeping house for her father in Galva. Elizabeth married James M. Wiley, who passed away in 1866. Edmund, a retired farmer of Galva, married Elizabeth Barefoot and they have five living children as follows: Charles Harry, Ervin, Ralph and Grace. Martha, who married Clarence Tucker, now deceased, lives in Columbus, Ohio, and has three children, Clara, Frederick and Jessie, all of whom are now living with the exception of Frederick. Mary

married Adam Dum and both are now deceased. Two children were born to them, Charles, now deceased, and Forrest, who is the assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Galva. Matilda wedded Pliny S. Jones and with their two children, Katharine and Merlin, they are now living in Quincy, Illinois. Luella is the wife of Thomas H. Simmons and they reside in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and have two children, Haven Yocum and Mary Deborah Simmons. Mrs. Mary Smith, the wife and mother, passed away July 12, 1875, at the age of sixty-one years. Her religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church as is that of her husband, who is at present a member of that denomination.

Before the organization of the republican party Charles Yocum gave his political allegiance to the whig party, voting for the first time in 1832 for Henry Clay, since which time he has not missed a single election, balloting in all for twenty presidential candidates. Never desirous of political preferment as a reward for party fealty, he has not been an active politician in the sense of office seeking and with the exception of ten years, during which time he held the office of supervisor in Peoria county, Illinois, he has not held office. In his early manhood, possessing good sense and unflinching courage, combined with perseverance and industry, he prospered in his undertakings and, after having lived a long and honorable life, he can look back over the past without regret and forward toward his eternal home without fear.

---

### B. FRANKLIN STEVENS.

The well cultivated fields and the excellent, commodious buildings which constitute the farm of B. Franklin Stevens on section 20, western township, offer but another evidence of what industry, economy and determination to succeed will accomplish. He was born on a farm near the village of Bath, Steuben county, New York, January 18, 1843, his parents being William and Margaret (Bailey) Stevens. Before he can remember, they removed to the village of Bath, where his father found employment as a laborer and where he attended the public schools. In 1855, when he was about twelve years of age, he and a brother William W. Stevens, started upon their journey to Illinois. They came by train to Colona, this county, whence they walked to Rock Island county, where a paternal uncle, Henry Stevens, was living. With him, B. Franklin Stevens made his home for about two years, attending the common schools of the district for a few months.

When about fifteen, at an age when many boys are giving little thought to the responsibilities of life, Mr. Stevens began to make his own way in the world, receiving wages for his day's labor. Although this amounted at first to only twenty-five cents a day and later to five dollars a month besides his board, he contrived to save something. For the first year after his marriage he rented land in Rock Island county but came to Henry county in 1869. In 1880 he bought the place he now occupies, consisting of fifty-three acres, and has remodeled all the buildings and erected a handsome residence. He makes a specialty of breeding and raising pure blood Poland China hogs and barred Plymouth Rock chickens.

At Watertown, Rock Island county, Illinois, December 22, 1867, Mr. Stevens wedded Miss Lena Julia Demmer, of Brookfield, Missouri. She was born in Germany and was little more than a child when, in 1847, she accompanied her parents, Adolph and Minnie (Schoder) Demmer, on their journey to America. Her mother died in St. Louis before they had reached their destination, and the father continued with his children to Buffalo, Iowa, where he made his home until his death. As this occurred when Mrs. Stevens was but seven years of age, she was placed under the guardianship of Captain Dodge, of Buffalo, with whom she lived until she was eleven. At that age she went to make her home with a sister in Aurora, Illinois, where she received a good education in the public schools. When the sister removed to Brookfield, Missouri, Mrs. Stevens, at that time being about twenty-one years old, accompanied her, but in 1865 she returned to Illinois to visit some friends in Watertown. While there she met Mr. Stevens and in the course of a couple of years they were married. Their first child, Clara, was born September 24, 1868, while they were living in Rock Island county. She attended the country schools and became the wife of Fred Love, a farmer in Rock Island county. They have five children, namely: Edwin, born in Henry county, November 21, 1895; Florence, also born in Henry county, October 20, 1897; Dessel, born in Rock Island county, June 24, 1900; Harold, born in Rock Island county, March 3, 1903; and Gertrude, born November 16, 1904. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens was Flora, born in Western township, February 4, 1874. She graduated from the public schools of Orion and is now the wife of James Carson, a farmer of Western township. They have one child, Ethel, who was born in that township, April 18, 1908.

Mr. Stevens was reared in the democratic party and cast his first presidential ballot for its candidate, George B. McClellan, in 1864. He has never been an office seeker, although he has always kept well informed upon subjects of public concern. On the 13th of October, 1875, he was initiated into Sherman Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., and in the progress of years has filled some of the chairs, for he has ever evinced an interest in the society's affairs, and his life, ordered by principles of integrity, has won the approval of his fraternal brothers.

---

### EDWARD GOLDEN, JR.

Edward Golden, Jr., whose large mining interests occupy much of his time, is one of the responsible and public-spirited men of Kewanee. He is a native of England—that country which has established more colonies than all other civilized lands put together. He was born in Dudley, England, in November, 1865, and is a son of Edward and Mary (Willets) Golden. Two years after his birth his father came to the United States and, arriving in Kewanee, engaged in coal mining for two years, when he returned to England and spent a year there. In 1869 he again came to Kewanee and soon afterward sent for his family and this has continued the home of the Goldenes. The father continued mining until about four years ago, when he retired. He is now sixty-seven years old and is residing in Kewanee.

Edward Golden, Jr., was given the advantages offered by the public schools until he was eleven years old, when he began mining, and he has been connected with mining interests ever since. He also embarked in farming and operated a farm until 1906, when he purchased an interest in the Kewanee Co-operative Coal Company and served as its president for two years and is now one of its directors. Having been engaged in this line of work all his business life, Mr. Golden is an authority upon mining and the company with which he is connected reaps the benefit of his experience and ripe knowledge.

On July 14, 1883, occurred the marriage of Mr. Golden and Rose Lamb, a native of Kewanee but of English descent. Three children are living of the five born to them, two having died in infancy. The others are: Pearl E., who married Lois Bredt of Kewanee, and is connected with his father in the coal business; and Elizabeth Frances and Harold Houstus, at home.

Mr. Golden has been very active as a working republican and in 1906 was elected highway commissioner and is now president of the board, having been returned to office in 1909 for a term of three years. His work as a public official is strong and marked with a thorough comprehension of the requirements of his constituents. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order, the Independent Order Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Improved Order of Red Men. In these fraternities he is deservedly popular and in every walk of life he has always been found able to meet whatever is required of him successfully and ably.

---

#### OLIVER P. NICKERSON.

Since 1900 Oliver P. Nickerson has been busily engaged with farming and stock raising, feeding and shipping on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 15, Cornwall township. He has gained a gratifying measure of success from his business and may well be numbered among the representative agriculturists of Henry county. He was born on a farm in Milo township, Bureau county, Illinois, April 15, 1867, and is a son of John and Dora E. (Carner) Nickerson, who are now living in Atkinson, this county. They were natives of New York state, where they were married, and upon coming to Illinois, located first in Bureau county. Later they removed to Alba township, Henry county, where Mr. Nickerson bought forty acres of land, which he sold a couple of years afterward, buying instead eighty acres on section 1, Cornwall township. Here he engaged in farming with distinct success, but with advancing years he decided to retire from active life and accordingly sold his property and removed to Atkinson. Ten children were born to him and his wife, and eight are still living.

Oliver P. Nickerson, who was the second in order of birth in this family, was a lad of four years when his parents came to Henry county, his earliest memories being connected with the home in Alba township, and he was about six when they came to Cornwall township. The subsequent years of his life have been spent here. When of suitable age he became a pupil in the district

school here, but his elementary education was amply supplemented by the practical training he received while he assisted his father upon the farm. He gave him the benefit of his labor until he was twenty-three years of age when he started in business for himself. For two summers he hired out to others, and the next season did carpenter's work and also operated a steam thresher, following those occupations for several years after he married. Later, when his savings justified it, he rented land in Cornwall township, and as his financial resources increased bought his present farm, paying sixty-two dollars and a half an acre for it. Some improvements had already been made, but Mr. Nickerson increased and bettered them, in everything he did evincing the progress so characteristic of this age. The neat and attractive appearance of his place is a visible evidence that he is a careful, persevering and systematic farmer, while the size of the harvests he annually gathers and markets bear testimony to his skill and good management. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he has engaged in the stock business, finding that this also renders him a gratifying profit. In 1909 he bought another eighty acres, for which he paid one hundred and forty dollars an acre and will take possession in 1910.

On the 14th of February, 1894, in Cornwall township, Mr. Nickerson led to the marriage altar Miss Laura Patience Farnam, of Cornwall township. She was born here, February 16, 1868, a daughter of John S. and Elizabeth (Tompkins) Farnam, and received a good common-school education. She has become the mother of seven children, namely: Nellie May, who was born November 8, 1894; Edna Verne, born February 20, 1897; Bessie Farnam, April 26, 1899; Irene Blanche, October 10, 1900; Laura Patience, October 31, 1902; Ada Ruth, June 12, 1904; and Dora Elizabeth, June 24, 1906.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Nickerson has invariably voted the republican ticket, on which he was elected assessor, serving in that capacity for several terms. His father had also ably filled that office, as well as that of school director, to which he was chosen after he removed to Atkinson. Fraternally Mr. Nickerson is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, holding membership in Atkinson Camp, No. 118. He is a man who conducting his business upon honorable methods, performing his duties of citizenship capably and at all times being true to the responsibilities that devolve upon him in every relation of life, well merits the esteem and good will which are uniformly accorded him.

---

### JOHN STRALEY.

John Straley, who as postmaster has for many years handled all the mail of the town of Atkinson, was born in Austria, December 1, 1843. His mother died in 1851, and the following year, his father, George Straley, came to this country. He settled in Rock Island, Illinois, where he followed his trade of stone-mason until his death, which occurred in 1865. In his family were six children, five of whom are living. They are George, of Colorado; Joseph, of Rock Island, Illinois;

Maria, the wife of Frank Raible, of Davenport, Iowa; John, of this review; and Mary, the wife of Anton Dieseuroth, of Rock Island.

John Straley received his education in the public schools of Geneseo and there learned the trade of a tinner. When he had reason to be confident of his proficiency he came to Atkinson and opened the tin shop and hardware store, which he conducted for fifteen years. He had a slight experience of war and battles in the great struggle in which the two parts of this country were engaged, for in 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry. He was discharged after four months, however, and saw little hard service. In 1876 Mr. Straley was appointed postmaster of Atkinson and has held the office ever since, save during the two democratic administrations. Faithful in the performance of his duties, he holds the respect and good-will of all who have come in contact with him, some of them almost daily for the great part of fifteen years.

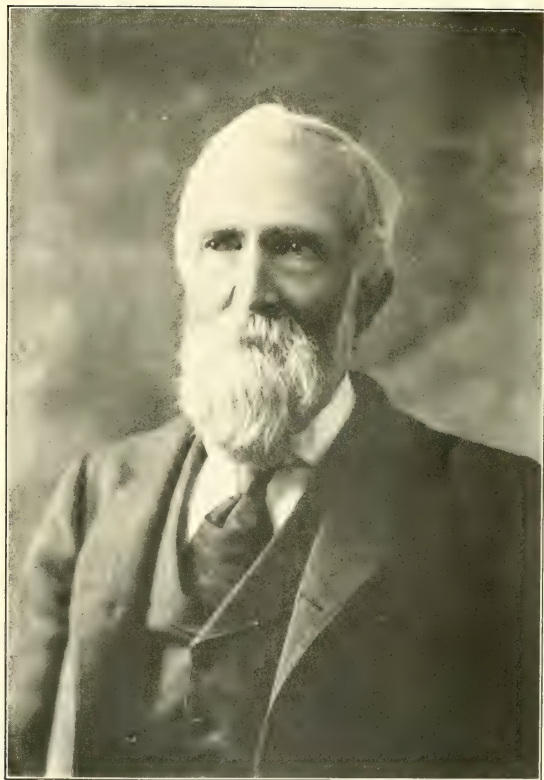
In 1865, Mr. Straley was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Garvin, who was born in Kentucky in 1843. For almost forty years the couple traveled life's journey together, but on the 29th of May, 1904, she was called away, and a few days later was laid to rest in Grand View cemetery, in Atkinson. Four children were born to them: William, whose birth occurred in Atkinson in 1866, married Miss Nora Smith. He is a conductor on the railroad and lives in Blue Island, Illinois. John G., was born in Atkinson in 1868 and in early manhood married Miss Jennie McClure, of Rock Island. They live in Los Angeles, California, where he is a railroad conductor, and have a son, Raymond, aged fourteen years. Ina, was born in Atkinson, Illinois, January 7, 1870. She married P. E. Geminder, a stone-mason and contractor of Atkinson, and they have one child, Halo. Halo, the youngest, was born in Atkinson in 1876 and married Fred Johnson, a fireman on a railroad. They live in Blue Island, Illinois, and have three children: Walter, aged seven years; Myron, aged five; and Eugene, who is three years old.

In 1876 Mr. Straley built his home on School street, but since the death of his wife he has lived with his daughter, Mrs. Geminder. A republican in his political views and a loyal citizen of Atkinson, he has found time to fill several other positions in addition to his duties as postmaster, for he has acted as town clerk, as supervisor and as tax collector. He is a member of the Methodist church and enjoys the most pleasant fraternal relations with the local lodge of Masons. A man easy of approach, genial in his attitude toward his fellowmen, and conscientious in the performance of his duties, Mr. Straley holds a position in the minds and hearts of the citizens of this town that few others can win.

---

#### JARED HEMINGWAY SMITH.

Jared Hemingway Smith, who was numbered among the large land owners, successful business men and most highly respected residents of Osco township, was born in Harwinton, Connecticut, November 18, 1827, and was a son of Anson and Abigail (Holt) Smith. He grew to manhood in his native state but the sterile fields of New England did not give him the opportunities he sought and



JARED H. SMITH



believing that he might have better advantages on the broad prairies of the middle west he came to Illinois in 1853 at the age of twenty-six years. Making his way to Henry county he lived for a time with the Welton family, whom he had known in his old home. Soon, however, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 22, Osco township, which remained his home until his death in 1903. The year following his arrival in Henry county Mr. Smith returned to Connecticut and there wedded Miss Jane A. Welton, with whom he had been previously acquainted. With his bride he returned to the middle west and they began their domestic life in one of the primitive pioneer homes of the town. The dimension timbers for their home were hewn by Mr. Smith from a tract of forest land which he owned east of Cambridge. This was one of the three houses then standing between Cambridge and Brown's Grove. A description of the furnishings of the house is taken from a letter written in 1856: "We have a set of flag seat chairs, one large rocking chair, a black walnut table and a stand, two bedsteads, an old clock that Lester gave us stands on a shelf in the south-east corner of the room and the looking glass hangs beside it. A cupboard stands on the west side of the kitchen. Jane uses it to wash dishes on. The broom hangs in the northwest corner of the room." This room is still in daily use but has been added to and remodeled.

Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Amelia, who became the wife of M. M. Nash, who is represented on another page of this volume; Anson W., who died in childhood; and Myra J., who married W. F. West and now lives in Berwyn, Nebraska. The mother died February 17, 1863, and on the 18th of August of the year following Mr. Smith married Miss Mary E. Knowles, of Lynn township. A native of Pennsylvania, she had come to Henry county with her parents in her early girlhood days and acquired her education in the public schools and afterward engaged successfully in teaching. By her marriage she became the mother of six children: Henry A., the oldest, wedded Miss Delia Atwood; Anna E. is the widow of William H. Patterson and now lives in Osco township with her brother, Charles E., on the home farm; Jared H. and George R. are twins and both are mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Charles E., as stated, lives on the old home farm and Mary Ethel resides with her brother and sister on the old home place.

Mrs. Smith died in 1894 while Jared H. Smith survived until the 23d of January, 1903, and was then called to his final rest. Throughout the period of his residence in Henry county he had devoted his life to general farming and had so capably and energetically managed his business affairs and so judiciously placed his investments that he had become the owner of eleven hundred acres of land all of which was under cultivation. Over nine hundred acres of this property is still in the possession of his children in Henry county. His success was never the cause of other men's failure but resulted from close application, careful business management and laudable ambition. He took keen interest in local affairs and rendered valuable service to the community in the offices of trustee, supervisor and treasurer of his township. He was one of the charter members of Grace Episcopal church and for eighteen years acted as senior warden. His entire life was in harmony with his profession, his sterling traits of character won him high regard and his activity contributed in no inconsiderable measure

to the development and progress of the county within whose borders he established his home in pioneer times and lived to see it take its place with the leading counties of this great commonwealth.

---

### JOHN C. DEWEY.

One of the wealthy citizens of Annawan, Illinois, is John C. Dewey, the senior member of the firm of J. C. Dewey & Company, who are engaged in the grain business. Starting with but little of this world's goods, by untiring industry, by the exercise of good judgment and through the constant utilization of his opportunities he has attained to a position of wealth and respect in the community. But what is even more gratifying to him than this is that his children, to whom he gave the best advantages within his power, are all well established in life, a credit to him and factors in their respective localities.

Mr. Dewey was born in Berlin, Vermont, April 18, 1843. His parents, Harry Hovey and Mary Louisa (Comings) Dewey, were both natives of that state, and the year of the father's birth, that of 1809, is one that has become historic in the annals of famous men of England and America. Harry Dewey was a farmer in Berlin, Vermont, and in 1848 removed to Lunenburg, that state, where he lived until the fall of 1863, when he came to Illinois. Three years later he went to Iowa, locating in Keosauqua, where he remained about eight years, after which he returned to Illinois. He settled in Sheffield, and there passed the remainder of his life. A democrat in politics, he took an active interest in local affairs. While he lived in Vermont he served in several of the minor offices, and in Iowa he acted as justice of the peace. He died in 1899 and was laid to rest in Sheffield, Illinois, beside his wife, who had passed away some years before. There were six children born to the couple, two now deceased. They were Lucy, deceased; H. H., a resident of Wichita, Kansas; John C., of this sketch; B. F., of Sheffield, Illinois; Eva, who died at the age of eighteen years; and W. W., of Peoria, Illinois.

John C. Dewey attended the district schools of Vermont and assisted his father on the farm from the time he was able to handle a plow. After attaining his majority he took up farming, which he pursued until he was about thirty-five years of age. In March, 1863, he came to Illinois, locating in Sheffield, where he began farming but in May of the next year he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for one hundred days' service. After about five months' service he returned to his home and went with his parents to Iowa, later returning to Sheffield. He next went to Atkinson, where for three years he was engaged in the grain business, and then went to Center-ville, Iowa, where he gave his attention to poultry. After two years' experience there he again engaged in the grain trade in Minden, Nebraska, and two years later removed to Loomis, that state, where he remained for seven years. For three years he lived in Buda, Illinois, and then, in 1897, came to Annawan, where he has since made his home, engaged in the grain trade. He conducts two ele-

vators and has found that his efforts here, as elsewhere, have met with a substantial reward.

In 1881 Mr. Dewey was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Mears, who was born in Aurora, Illinois, and is a daughter of William and Ann (Lathrop) Mears, both natives of Ireland. The father was a brick mason and served through the greater part of the Civil war, blindness coming upon him before his death as the result of the hardships he endured in that great struggle. He and his wife are buried in Aurora. They were the parents of five children: Mary, deceased; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Dewey; William, a railroad engineer in Aurora, who died in Leadville, Colorado; George, of Aurora; and Joseph, also of Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey have had four children, all living. Fenno C., born in Atkinson, Illinois, November 8, 1882, was graduated from the Annawan schools and from the business college of Davenport, Iowa, and is now assisting his father in his office. Harry, born October 4, 1884, in Atkinson, is also a graduate of the Annawan schools and of the business college of Davenport. He is in the grain business in Camp Grove, Illinois. On the 28th of June, 1909, he married Miss Jessie Snozey. Annie L., born November 15, 1892, in Loomis, Nebraska, is a graduate of the Annawan schools and is attending Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois. William J., born in Loomis, Nebraska, in September, 1894, is a pupil of the Annawan grammar school.

When Mr. Dewey came to Annawan he purchased his handsome home on North avenue. It is modern in every respect and is furnished with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, standing as a slight indication of the prosperity to which he has attained through his own efforts. In political matters he allies himself with the republican party, but he has never sought any public office.

---

### JAMES B. ENSEY.

James B. Ensey, who for many years was a successful farmer of Munson township but has now retired from active life and is living in the city of Geneseo, was born in Howard county, Maryland, November 25, 1859, and is a son of Richard L. and Mary Jane (Gosnell) Ensey, both natives of that state. The father was born March 29, 1825, and followed farming in the state of his birth until his death in 1906. He was a strong democrat in his political views. His wife, who was born in 1837, died in June, 1901, and like her husband was buried in Maryland. They were the parents of nine children, seven now living: Lydia, who was the wife of Lee Gardner and died in 1887; Perry, who lives in Maryland; John, who lives in Dakota; James B., of this review; Susan, the wife of Will Selby, who lives in Maryland; Nimrod, a resident of Denver, Colorado; Mollie, who is in the convent at Springfield, Missouri; and Jessie Smith, who is the wife of Samuel Edminston and lives in Cumberland, Maryland.

James B. Ensey was educated in the district schools of Maryland and remained with his parents on the home farm until he was eighteen years of age. In 1877 he came to Geneseo, Illinois, and located in Munson township, Henry

county, where he secured work by the month, for he had only one hundred and fifty dollars with him, and he was anxious to save that and add to it so that he might start in farming for himself. For five years he was in the employ of others and then rented land in Munson township. In 1895 he was able to buy one hundred and ten acres there, to which he later added one hundred and ninety acres, which brought his holdings to three hundred acres, of which he still retains possession. He made a number of important improvements upon the land from time to time and it is now quite valuable. On the 24th of December, 1908, Mr. Ensey decided to relinquish the heavier duties of life and bought the fine home he occupies on Mechanic and West North streets, Geneseo, where he enjoys the rest and comfort to which his years of toil have entitled him.

On the 24th of December, 1889, Mr. Ensey married Miss Anna E. Young, who was born in Munson township March 28, 1868, and is a daughter of James and Anna Young, both natives of Scotland. The father was born in Arbroath about 1819, and came to the United States in 1848, bringing his wife and eldest child with him. He located first in Ogle county, and later moved to Munson township, this county, where he passed the remainder of his days. He died May 17, 1894, but his wife, who was born in 1823, survived until June 24, 1905. They were the parents of eight children, three deceased: Jennie married Sidney Summers and lived in Kansas, until her death about seventeen years ago; James lives in Munson township; Mary Ann is the wife of Robert Ruxton, of Des Moines, Iowa; John lives in Morristown, Osco township; Charles is deceased; William has also passed away; Margaret is the wife of Theo Souers, of Grundy Center, Iowa; and the eighth is Mrs. Ensey.

Mr. and Mrs. Ensey have seven children, all born in Munson township: James Herbert, who died at the age of eleven months; John Linn, who was born September 2, 1891, and is now attending the Geneseo high school; Anna May, born July 7, 1893; Mary Elizabeth, born July 14, 1895; Charles Albert Young, born February 10, 1902; Francis Genese, born May 21, 1904; and Florence M., born December 21, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Ensey are members of the Presbyterian church, and he allies himself with the democrats politically. He is, however, somewhat independent and frequently votes for whom he considers the best man irrespective of party affiliation. Public-spirited, he has served as school director and has always been in favor of progress. He enjoys fraternal relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, among whom he has made many friends. Industrious and enterprising, he has accumulated a gratifying quantity of this world's possessions, and what is more, enjoys the respect of his fellow citizens.

---

#### J. D. FORD.

J. D. Ford, of Geneseo, is a retired farmer and stock dealer who has spent the greater part of his life in Henry county and is well known to its citizens as a representative and reliable business man. He was born near Rutland, Vermont, June 6, 1847, his parents being Henry S. and Ellen M. (Child) Ford, who were

likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. The paternal grandfather, Olivet Ford, went from Canada to Vermont, establishing his home near Rutland, where he followed the occupation of farming. He wedded Mary Post and died in the east after which his widow came to Geneseo and spent her last days here. She reached an advanced age and her grave was made in the Geneseo cemetery. Her three children were Henry S., David and Mary, the wife of Gardner Hunt. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Horace Child, also a native of Vermont. He married a Miss Rice and they became early settlers of Rock Island county, Illinois. Mr. Child conducted an extensive dry-goods business there for some time before the railroad was built. He afterward removed to Geneseo, where both he and his wife died at an old age, their remains being interred in the Oakwood cemetery.

Henry S. Ford spent the days of his boyhood and youth in New England and on his removal westward to Henry county, Illinois, purchased a farm of sixty acres, all now within the city limits of Geneseo. He laid out most of the streets in the north part of the town and was closely associated with the development and progress of that portion of the city. He was also actively connected with general agricultural pursuits and live-stock dealing and in connection with his son, J. D. Ford, purchased and controlled a stock farm of three hundred acres east of Geneseo. He remained an active, enterprising business man of the county until his death, which occurred in June, 1891, when he was seventy-five years of age. His wife passed away May 6, 1902, at the age of eighty-two years. Both were members of the Congregational church and were consistent Christian people who enjoyed in large measure the warm regard of all who knew them. Their children numbered five sons and three daughters: Watson, who died in Andersonville prison; Sarah, the wife of Milo Parker, of Omaha, Nebraska; J. D., the subject of this sketch; Ella B., the widow of George Beale, of Van Wert, Ohio; Horace, of Guthrie Center, Iowa; Fannie, the wife of Albert McMurphy, of Omaha, Nebraska; Fred and Harry, both having died in childhood.

J. D. Ford, whose name introduces this review, has lived in Geneseo since February, 1855, being about seven years of age at the time of his arrival. The educational advantages offered him were those afforded by the common schools, yet his course was not continuous for his labors were often needed in the cultivation and improvement of the home farm. He was reared as a farm boy, living at home until he had attained his majority and he then entered into partnership with his father. The business associations between them continued until the father's death and Mr. Ford was actively associated with general farming and live stock interests and the careful management which he displayed, combined with unflinching energy and unabating industry, won for him the success which is now his. While he is practically living retired from the active management of business affairs he still gives some attention to farming and stock-raising in connection with his son Clyde and is yet financially interested in important enterprises, being a stockholder and director in the Farmers Bank, while for many years he was connected with the Farmers & Merchants Insurance Company.

On the 29th of December, 1869, Mr. Ford was united in marriage to Miss Mary K. Weston, a daughter of Thomas Weston. They became the parents of four children: Nellie H.; Harry W., who was killed by lightning when twenty-

five years of age; Ray B., who died when eight years of age; and Clyde D., who operates the home farm east of Geneseo. He married Maud Pritchard and they have a daughter, Phyllis Elizabeth. Mrs. Mary K. Ford was born near Bucyrus, Ohio. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of the Buckeye state. They came to Henry county, Illinois, in April, 1857, and later Mr. Weston made a trip overland to Pike's Peak. Finally he settled in Geneseo, where he conducted a tannery. He was twice married, his first wife passing away in 1849, while his second wife died in 1899. His death occurred when he was eighty years of age.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ford hold membership in the Congregational church, with which their children are also identified. In his political views Mr. Ford is a republican but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his time and attention upon his individual interests. The cause of education, however, finds in him a warm friend and for many years he was school director. His business affairs have been most capably managed and the success which he has achieved is well merited as it is the direct reward of enterprise and effort.

---

### JOHN J. BLOOM.

One of the citizens of Atkinson whose efforts during the years of his activity vastly aided the commercial prosperity of the city is John J. Bloom, a hardware merchant who now in his comfortable home on Williams street, enjoys the well deserved respite from toil to which the success of his previous years entitle him. He was born July 11, 1846, in Bradford, Bedford county, Pennsylvania. His father, Jacob Bloom, was a native of the same place, and was born in the year 1822. He had learned the trade of a blacksmith in his youth, and when he had attained to man's estate in 1853, he came west to Illinois, locating first in Mt. Carroll, Carroll county. For two years he followed his calling there and then removed to Polo, Ogle county, and in 1858 to Geneseo, where he worked at his trade for almost eight years. In the spring of 1866 he came to Atkinson, and after a short residence here removed to Ralls county, Missouri, whence in 1868 he went to Hannibal, Marion county, Missouri. There he passed away November 27, 1870. Miss Elizabeth Miller, who in 1845 became the wife of Jacob Bloom, was born in 1825 in the same place as her husband and son. She survived her husband more than thirty years, and was seventy-six years of age when in 1901 she responded to the call of death. Eleven children were born to them. John J., of this review is the oldest. Ellen, born in Bedford, Pennsylvania, became the wife of William Johnston and lives in Oklahoma. Hezekiah, born in Pennsylvania, died July 2, 1895. J. C. lives in Chicago. George W., born in Illinois, resides in Hannibal, Missouri. Judson D., born in Illinois, lives in Arkansas. Rosalinda passed away at the age of fifty years. Henrietta, born in Geneseo, Illinois, is the wife of Charles Adams, of Kansas City. One, who was born in Geneseo, Illinois, died in childhood. Ida, born in Geneseo, lives in Hannibal, Missouri. Jacob, Jr., born in Atkinson, Illinois, also lives in Hannibal, Missouri.

John J. Bloom received the greater part of his education in the public schools of Geneseo, but his success in life has been due almost entirely to his own efforts, for his youth knew many privations and was seriously handicapped by lack of opportunities. During the progress of the Civil war his blood was stirred by the accounts of heroism on the field of battles and though but seventeen years of age he enlisted in 1863 in the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. After six months of service he was discharged and enlisted again in February, 1864, finding a place in the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois, from which, after six months, he was transferred at Meridian, to the Thirty-third Illinois. In December, 1865, he was honorably discharged, and returned to take up the life of a civilian. In the two years he was in the army, however, he saw a good deal of active warfare, for he participated in the siege of Fort Spanish, which lasted thirteen or fourteen days. Upon his return to the arts of peace, he farmed as a renter for one year and then removed to Hannibal, Missouri, where for four and a half years he worked for the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad. In 1875 he came to Atkinson and, after following the blacksmith's trade for a time, found employment with John Straley in his tin and hardware shop. In 1878 Mr. Bloom purchased the stock and tools of the latter and embarked in business on his own account. In 1905, after having conducted the store for twenty-seven and a half years, he sold his interests to Milton Booth. He really retired from active life then, though for the next three years he remained with Mr. Booth, assisting him in learning the intricacies of the business. In 1879, shortly after he took up his residence in Atkinson he bought his comfortable home on Williams street. This he has since remodeled and made entirely modern and in 1900 he erected the fine brick store on Main street where Mr. Booth now conducts his operations. For three decades he has taken part in the advancement of Atkinson, his efforts have contributed more than a little to the growth of the city, and his success has meant the prosperity of his fellow citizens.

On the 10th of November, 1867, Mr. Bloom married Miss Clarinda A. Lucas, who was born in New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas county, Ohio, May 1, 1849. Her father, Eli R. Lucas, was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1817, and was a self-made man, for he started in life as a laborer. He had come to Illinois in 1855 and served for many years as a member of the school board. In politics he was a republican. His wife was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1823, and went to Ohio with her parents when she was about fourteen years of age. On the 26th of September, 1841, she was united in marriage to Eli R. Lucas, and in the fifty years that the couple were permitted to pass down life's pathway together were blessed with six children. Rebecca, born July 19, 1843, became the wife of Samuel L. Stebbins and died March 3, 1895. John was born August 10, 1845, and died the 29th of the same month. James was born August 15, 1846, and died in Omak, Washington, January 10, 1908. Clarinda, the fourth child, is now Mrs. Bloom. George was born May 2, 1853, and died June 21, 1908. David was born October 2, 1856, and resides in Blue Island, Illinois. Mrs. Lucas died November 13, 1904, and was laid beside her husband who had passed away August 23, 1892, in the Grand View cemetery, Atkinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Bloom have had four children. Mary Elizabeth, born December 18, 1869, died March 18, 1872. Bertha, born March 6, 1873, is the wife of

Thomas Goodman, of Atkinson, Illinois. Lois Gail, born January 26, 1876, is the wife of Frank Moloney, a teamster of Atkinson. They have one little girl, Frances Clarinda, born August 16, 1903. Vinnie, the youngest, was born November 13, 1877, and died the 22d of the same month. The first child was laid to rest in the cemetery at Hannibal, Missouri, the last in Atkinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Bloom are members of the Methodist church, and in his younger years Mr. Bloom was very active in Sunday-school work and in advancing the cause of temperance. In his political views he is a democrat, but usually votes for the man he considers best qualified for office. For seventeen years he rendered efficient service as a member of the school board and for four years acted as village trustee. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, and at the meetings of the local Grand Army post revives the memories of his war days, and he derived especial pleasure from attending the national encampment at Toledo a few years ago. Mrs. Bloom has seen Atkinson's entire development. When her parents located here Indians were not infrequently seen. A few years ago she revisited the Ohio home in which her childhood days were passed, and although time had changed the appearance of things, the trip is one of the most pleasant memories of her later years. She is a member of the Grand Army auxiliary, and her bright smile and happy disposition make her welcome wherever she goes. Enjoying good health, Mr. Bloom can look back over the sixty-three years of his life as well spent. Financial success and the comforts which this has made possible, assure him ease during the remaining years of his life. Though discouragement often came to him in his early years, he plodded along manfully, and the whole-hearted good will and respect which his friends and neighbors accord him is satisfaction enough, in his eyes, for the hardships of the past. Jovial in his disposition, sincere in his relations with others, he has made a warm place in the hearts of the citizens of Atkinson.

---

### ABRAM J. LEUIS.

Abram J. Lewis, who is now living retired upon his farm on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 9, Cornwall township, was for a long period actively identified with the best agricultural and stock interests of Henry county, the success of his business being indicated by the fact that in addition to the fertile land on which he resides he also owns the southwest quarter of section 21. The Lewis family is of Welsh descent and the name was originally spelled with a "u" instead of a "w". William Lewis, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Elizabeth Lydia. Later he removed to Ohio, where he bought land and lived until the early '50s, when he came to Illinois, locating in Cornwall township, Henry county, where he secured a tract of land for which he paid the government price of a dollar and a quarter per acre.

His son, John Lewis, the father of Abram J. Lewis, was born in Indiana township, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and was only a small boy when he accompanied his parents upon their removal to Ohio. In that state he married

Miss Mary Cozad, May 4, 1848, and lived there until the fall of 1851, when he came to Illinois. For a few months he worked in a packing house in Fulton county, but in the spring of 1852 located in Cornwall township, Henry county, laying a soldier's claim which he bought from Henry Cozad, his wife's cousin. The land was situated on section 21 and he paid a dollar and a quarter an acre for it, buying it a few years before his father came to this state. He became one of the leading farmers of his locality and one of the large landholders, for with keen business sagacity he seized the opportunity to buy at a low price property that increased greatly in value as the years passed. Shortly before his death he deeded eighty acres to each of his thirteen children and still retained one hundred and twenty acres for himself, which indicates the extent of his possessions. He was a man of influence in his community, although he steadily refused to accept public office, and his voice was ever raised in support of progress and development. Politically he was allied with the democratic party, while his religious adherence was given to the Liberty Baptist church. Upon his death he was laid to rest in Liberty cemetery, Cornwall township, where his father and wife were buried, and where the graves of all the other deceased members of the Lewis family have been made. Of his family William J. is the oldest. Abram J. is the subject of this sketch, Samuel is now living in Geneseo. John U. is a resident of Cornwall township. James Andrew lives in Geneseo. George W. makes his home in Jasper county, Illinois. Francis Marion is living in Texas. Charles A. makes his home in Kansas City, Missouri. Charity A. is the wife of James Fell and they live in Geneseo. Stephen A. is a resident of Omaha, Nebraska. Alfred Theodore lives in Munson township, Henry county. Robert resides in Barton county, Missouri, and Mary E., who is the wife of George Hudson, also lives in that state.

Abram J. Lewis, whose name introduces this review, was born in Jackson county, Ohio, February 17, 1851, and was but a mere child when his parents established their home in Cornwall township. He grew to manhood upon the farm, assisting in the work carried on there and at the same time becoming acquainted with the fundamental branches of education during the months he was a pupil in the district school. At the age of twenty-one years he married and rented land from his father, deriving such success from his farming that in the course of a few years, on the 27th of July, 1880, he was able to buy eighty acres on section 9, Cornwall township, for fifty dollars per acre. Later he purchased twenty acres on section 4, for forty dollars, and then bought the tract of eighty acres on which he now lives for fifty-three dollars an acre. The last addition to his landholdings comprised eighty acres on section 21, for which he paid sixty-seven dollars an acre. It was entirely through his own efforts that such substantial investments were possible. As young a man he learned the invaluable lesson of industry and economy, and being endowed with rare business ability he was able to conduct his affairs profitably. The natural fertility of the soil well repaid his labors in cultivating it, and the care he took of his stock enabled him to find a ready market and command a good price.

On the 9th of May, 1872, Mr. Lewis wedded Miss Mary C. Reese, of Cornwall township, and unto them two children were born. Lota became the wife of Warren Dunham, and they live on section 21, Cornwall township, where they

are rearing their two children. John Roland died at the age of twenty-one months. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Lewis married Miss Martha J. McFarland, of Knox county, Missouri, April 14, 1885, in the city of Geneseo. She was born in Auglaize county, Ohio, December 12, 1859, and was about twelve years of age when her parents, John D. and Samantha (Julian) McFarland, removed to Knox county, Missouri, where they are still living. She received a fair common school education and was in Geneseo on a visit, when she became acquainted with Mr. Lewis. There was one daughter, Mamie Blanche, born of this union, but she died in infancy.

Mr. Lewis does not support any particular party, preferring to cast his ballot for the candidate he believes most deserving of office or the measure which will prove of greatest benefit to the community. He does not desire office for himself, however, although he ever evinces a keen interest in public affairs. His life has been quietly passed, and yet there are in his record elements that are well worthy of emulation, for he has sought his success along the legitimate lines of labor and his efforts have at all times conformed to a high standard of manhood.

---

### FREDERICK J. RASTEDE.

The growth and progress of a city or community do not depend upon the machinery of government or even upon the men who control public affairs as much as upon those who are active in business circles, for the industry and enterprise, which are manifested by the merchants and other business men, constitute the standard of the city's development. Among the well appointed and well equipped grocery houses of Geneseo is that owned by the firm of Rastede & Wenke, of which the subject of this review is the senior partner. He has become widely and favorably known during the thirty-one years of his residence in this city and, therefore, the history of his life cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers.

Frederick J. Rastede was born in Elsfleth, in the dutchy of Oldenberg, Germany, September 4, 1851, and was the second in order of birth in a family of four children whose parents were Frederick and Helena (Gode) Rastede, who were likewise natives of the same country. The grandfather, Otto Rastede, was also of the Teutonic race and was a farmer by occupation. His wife, Mrs. Olga Margareta Rastede, lived to a very advanced age and reared her family of one son and five daughters. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Eilert Gode, who died in Germany when about eighty-one or eighty-two years of age. His wife, however, was only about thirty years of age when called to the home beyond. He had been a lifelong farmer, providing for his family in the tilling of the soil. Frederick Rastede, Sr., was also a farmer and died in Germany in 1864, when fifty-two years of age. His wife survived for about twenty-six years, passing away in 1890 at the age of sixty-eight. They were adherents of the Lutheran faith and were consistent in their religious lives. Their children were: Otto, now deceased; Frederick J.; Amelia, who is living near Albany, Whiteside

county, Illinois; and Henry, who makes his home in Whiteside county, near Morrison.

In the schools of his native village Frederick J. Rastede acquired a good education, continuing his studies in accordance with the laws of his native land, to the age of fourteen years. He then started out in life for himself as a seaman and remained on shipboard for three years. During that period he heard attractive stories concerning the new world and its advantages and, heeding the call of the American continent, he came to the United States in December, 1867, landing at New York. He did not tarry in the eastern metropolis, however, but made his way at once to Clinton, Iowa, where lived his uncle, Henry Gode, who was the owner of a grocery store there. Mr. Rastede entered his employ and remained in the store for seven and a half years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Albany, Illinois, joining his mother who, in 1872, had come from Germany with the other children of the family and was living on the farm near Albany with her two younger children. For a time Mr. Rastede remained with his mother but, finding commercial pursuits more congenial than agricultural life, he formed a partnership with Stephen Smith and engaged in the grocery business in Albany for a year. In 1878 he removed to Geneseo, bought a lot and built his present store building. He then opened a grocery store, which he has conducted continuously since. He was alone in the business for sixteen years and then admitted his brother-in-law, Henry Wenke, to a partnership, which has since been maintained under the firm name of Rastede & Wenke. This is now one of the old grocery firms of the city and the store contains a large and carefully selected line of goods, such as meets the demands of the general public. They are among the foremost in introducing what is new to the market and their reliable business methods constitute, moreover, a salient feature in their success. In addition to his commercial interests Mr. Rastede has made extensive investment in real estate and is the owner of a valuable farm of four hundred acres in Carroll county, Iowa, and another of two hundred and forty acres in Plymouth county, Iowa. He also has desirable city property in Geneseo, all of which is evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift.

Mrs. Rastede, in her maidenhood, bore the name of Lizzie Wenke. She was born at Hampton, Illinois, a daughter of John and Lena (Oldman) Wenke, who were natives of Oldenberg, Germany. Coming to America, they settled in Rock Island, Illinois, and continued their residence in this state throughout their remaining days. The father died in Geneseo at the age of eighty-four years and the mother is still living in this city at the age of eighty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Rastede have become the parents of six children: Fred J., who married Eva Mohrman and lives in Pierce, Nebraska; Louis, who wedded Laura Weidlein, of Geneseo and has a daughter, Marjory; Hulda, at home; Arthur, who died at the age of ten years; and two who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Rastede were members of the Lutheran church and they occupy an enviable place in the social circles of the city. He is a stalwart democrat in his political faith and that his fellow townsmen have appreciation for his worth as a citizen is indicated in the fact that his ward, the second, twice elected him to the city council, where he served for four years. He has also been a member of the school board for six years and is a stalwart champion of progressive education. His

record is altogether a most creditable one and he has justly gained the proud American title of a self-made man. Coming to this country where labor is unhampered by caste or class, he has steadily worked his way upward and the success which he has achieved is as creditable as it is desirable.

---

### WILLIAM IRVINE.

William Irvine, who was for years one of the substantial farmers of Atkinson township and is now living in retirement in Mansill's addition to the city of Atkinson, is one of the men in this county who has attained to success and affluence through his own unaided efforts. He was born in County Down, Ireland, in September, 1861, and is a son of John and Sarah (Hall) Irvine, both natives of Ireland. In 1872 the parents and children came to America, making their way to Illinois. They settled first upon a farm in Cornwall township, Henry county, and after two years went to Alba township, where the parents passed the remainder of their lives. In the old country John Irvine had been a tax collector and upon coming to this land he affiliated with the republican party. Reared in the Presbyterian church, he died in that faith on the 7th of January, 1896, in the eightieth year of his age. His widow survived until June 19, 1899, when she too passed away and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Geneseo. She was eighty-two years of age at her death. Nine children were born to them, four of whom have died. Those living are Thomas, who resides in Chicago; William, of this review; Jane, the widow of Robert Fulton and a resident of Atkinson; Sarah, the wife of James Purse, of Denver, Colorado; and Ellen, the wife of William Purse.

William Irvine attended the public schools of Ireland and assisted his father in farming in the old country. Upon coming to the United States, he worked with his father on rented land in Cornwall township, this county, for three years, and then bought one hundred and twenty acres in Alba township. This he improved greatly and by diligence and good management was able not only to bring it to a paying condition but also to buy land in Atkinson township from time to time, until he had two hundred acres there, which brought his holdings up to three hundred and forty acres. In March, 1906, he retired from active farming and removed to the handsome home which, in 1905, he had built in Mansill's addition to Atkinson. Confident that his fields are under the excellent care of good tenants, Mr. Irvine can enjoy the comforts to which his long years of arduous toil entitle him. His life was a struggle in the beginning and the rest he now enjoys is very desirable.

On the 30th of March, 1874, Mr. Irvine wedded Miss Margaret McWen, who was born in Ireland, in 1863. She was a member of the Congregational church and died in that faith February 3, 1892. Two of her family have since passed away. The others are: William, who lives in Denver, Colorado, and has two sons, Theo and Ernest; Nellie, the wife of John Graham, the proprietor of the Graham Hotel of Atkinson, by whom she has three children, Harold, Bernice and Carl; Ernest, who lives in Denver; Gertrude, the wife of William Nowers,

of South Dakota, by whom she has two children, Margaret and William; Sarah, the wife of Ralph Swaney, of Atkinson township; Clara, the wife of Fred Foster, of South Dakota; and Nora May, a teacher in Atkinson township. In June, 1895, Mr. Irvine married again, his second wife having been Miss Agnes Bailey, who was born in Ireland in 1861 and is a daughter of James and Eliza (McQuoid) Bailey. Her parents are of Irish birth and were both born in 1829. They are members of the Presbyterian church and are still living in their native home, surrounded by many of their family. Six of their seven children are living, namely: Hugh, who lives with his parents in the old country; James, a resident of Belfast, Ireland; Frank, of Chicago, Illinois; Annie, the wife of William Alexander, of Belfast; Sarah, the wife of James Johnson, of Ballyobican, Ireland; and Agnes, who is the wife of Mr. Irvine. Of this second union there has been one child born, a son, James, born January 18, 1898, now attending the public schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvine are members of the Congregational church, and she belongs to the Royal Neighbors. In his political views Mr. Irvine is a republican but is liberal, voting usually for the best man irrespective of party. He is endowed with an attractive personality, is easy of approach, genial and kind-hearted. His friends are numerous and are ever accorded a sincere welcome in his home in Atkinson, for his wife possesses those graces that make her a delightful hostess. Her assistance has been invaluable to her husband, especially in those first years of their married life when she cared so fondly for his motherless children.

---

#### J. W. KEENER.

J. W. Keener, a hardware merchant of Annawan, who has one of the finest herds of Jersey cattle in his locality, was born in Grafton, West Virginia, in 1865. Grafton was also the birthplace of his parents, James and Matilda (Means) Keener, the former of whom was born in 1838, the latter the year following. In his native home James Keener was engaged in farming and there he passed away two years after the birth of his son, J. W., who is the younger of his two children. Susan, the daughter, became the wife of D. O. Stover and lives in Enid, Oklahoma.

J. W. Keener came to Illinois in 1867 and here he has since resided. He had less schooling than the average boy, even of that period, for all told he received but eighteen months' instruction, and yet, despite this serious handicap, he has prospered in his affairs. His first experience in business was as a farmer, for he assisted his stepfather in the conduct of his agricultural work until he was thirty years old. He then found employment as a clerk with L. T. Dows, who was the proprietor of a general store in Annawan. After nine years' experience, in January, 1903, he purchased the hardware stock of the firm and embarked in business on his own account, opening a shop on Front street. He carried a general line of hardware and is well supplied with different makes of stoves and with house furnishings, and as he does everything in his power to satisfy his patrons he has built up a large trade. Though so intimately connected with the affairs

of the town, Mr. Keener also keeps in touch with agricultural pursuits. He lives on Front street, at the west edge of Annawan, on a pretty place to which he has given the name of Dairy Maid Jersey Farm. Here he has a herd of Jersey cattle, some of them being related to stock that was exhibited at the St. Louis fair, and one cow being the sister of a prize winner there. From these he obtains an excellent quality of butter which he delivers to many families in Chicago, and intends in the near future to give more and more time to this part of his business, both as regards dairying and the breeding of pure blooded animals.

Mr. Keener has been married twice. In October, 1897, he wedded Miss Mary E. Baldwin, a native of Annawan and a daughter of J. B. Baldwin, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. They became the parents of a daughter, Myrtle E., who was born in Annawan, April 11, 1899. Mrs. Keener died in August, 1902, and was buried in the cemetery of this village. She was a devout member of the Congregational church. In February, 1905, Mr. Keener married Miss Millie Mumford, who was born in Annawan and is a daughter of George and Catherine (Myers) Mumford. The father was a farmer of Henry county, and both he and his wife have passed away. They had four children, three of whom are living: Wendall J., of Annawan township; Millie, now Mrs. Keener; and Belle, who is the wife of George Carter, of Freeport, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Keener have one child, Catherine, who was born January 19, 1907.

Politically Mr. Keener is in sympathy with the platform of the prohibitionist party, but he has never sought any public office. He enjoys pleasant relations with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen, and is regular in his attendance at the meetings of the local lodges of these organizations. Among his fraternal brothers and in the town of Annawan he has made many stanch friends, for he possesses those traits of character which naturally attract others to him. Eager to satisfy the desires of his customers and broad and liberal in his ideas, he richly deserves his success and the good name he holds among the citizens of his section of the county.

---

### JOHN E. GUSTAFSON.

John E. Gustafson, one of the young and successful farmers and stockmen of Western township, where he operates a tract of two hundred acres belonging to his father, was born in Lynn township, this county, near what is known as Swedona, January 6, 1875, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Weech) Gustafson, a sketch of whose lives appears elsewhere in this work. He was one year old when the family left the farm in Lynn township and removed to the place on which he now lives, although at that time it embraced but little more than a third as many acres as at present. Here he grew to manhood and has passed the greater part of his life. He attended the country schools first and later the public schools of Orion, after which he entered a business college in Davenport, Iowa, where he spent one winter. He thus received a good education, which, united with the practical training he had obtained under his father's guidance, amply prepared him for the responsibilities of life.

Mr. Gustafson remained under the parental roof until his marriage and then assumed the management of the large tract which has since been under his care. In addition to purely agricultural pursuits, he has engaged to some extent in the stock business, making a specialty of the raising and feeding of fine bred Poland China hogs. From both branches of his business he has obtained an income that is gratifying and places him among the substantial men of Western township.

In Geneseo, June 23, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Gustafson and Miss Nellie Anderson, of Cambridge, Illinois. She was born near Stockholm, Sweden, a daughter of Swan and Nellie (Larson) Anderson, and was about eight years of age when the family came to this country. They took up their abode in Cambridge, where the father passed the remainder of his life. He died in June, 1908, but the mother is still living in Western township. Mrs. Gustafson attended school in her home town and then was enrolled as a student in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, from which she was graduated with the class of 1903. She had in the meantime, however, seven years' experience as a teacher in the country schools and later in Orion, where she made the acquaintance of her husband. One child has been born to them, Clayton Stuart, whose birth occurred February 23, 1904.

Since old enough to exercise the franchise right of an American citizen, Mr. Gustafson has given his support to the republican party but has never sought public office, although he has been interested in local affairs. He is a member of the Orion Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., and with his wife belongs to the Eastern Star, in which she served as Electa and is now secretary. They are also members of the Farmers Social Club. Their religious allegiance has been given to the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mrs. Gustafson is a teacher in the Sunday school.

---

#### ROBERT E. BAILEY.

One of the citizens of Atkinson, Illinois, with whom time has dealt very lightly is Robert E. Bailey, who carries his sixty-six years as many another man carries fifty and is more active in his movements. Save for a slight difficulty in hearing time has left little mark upon him. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1844, he comes from sturdy Scotch-Irish stock. His parents, Thomas and Christina (Irquohart) Bailey, were born in Edinburgh, Scotland, some ninety years ago and came to America shortly after their marriage. They settled first in Providence, where Dr. Bailey followed the medical profession, and then lived in Brooklyn and in other places on Long Island. A number of years ago, while on a visit to a son, he passed away, and his wife is also deceased. Five children, three sons and two daughters constituted the family born to Dr. and Mrs. Bailey; James, who lives in Wisconsin; Charles A., who lives on Long Island; Emma, the wife of William Walker, a resident of Brooklyn, New York; Virginia, also of Brooklyn; and Robert E., of this review.

Robert E. Bailey received his education in the schools of Brooklyn, New York, and then entered a produce commission house in New York city. He

remained with the firm for six years and then determined to start in the poultry business for himself. With this purpose in view he came west, locating in Meadville, Missouri, where during a period of twenty years he carried on business successfully, finding a ready market for his poultry and his eggs. Despite the good fortunes that had attended him in this business, he gave it up about thirty years ago to take up work as a painter and paper-hanger, which was his occupation in 1892 when he came to Atkinson and opened his shop on State street. In the seventeen years that he has been connected with commercial life here he has done much and good work, work which like the man that accomplished it has withstood the ravages of time.

In 1877 Mr. Bailey married Miss Clara Milar. She was born in Ohio in 1854 and was a daughter of R. W. and Rebecca (Kinsley) Milar. The father was a carpenter during his lifetime, but has been dead for some years as has his wife. Mrs. Bailey, who also departed this life on the 10th of August, 1908, and was buried in Geneseo cemetery two days later, was a devoted wife, a kind neighbor, and beloved by all who knew her. Shortly after her marriage she joined the Baptist church with her husband and was ever afterward a conscientious adherent of that faith. Among the members of the Eastern Star, to which she belonged she made stanch friends who unite with her husband in mourning her loss. She became the mother of one child, now deceased. The home which Mr. Bailey occupies, a very pretty residence on State street, was one of the first houses built in Atkinson and was erected by Mrs. Bailey's father, so that it held many associations for both husband and wife. In politics Mr. Bailey is a good republican, finding his ideals of government best expressed in the platform of that party, but he takes no active part in either political or public matters.

---

### OLOF MOLINE.

One of the successful agriculturists of Bishop Hill, whose influence extended throughout Weller township, was Olof Moline, who passed from this life March 16, 1896. He was born in Alfta Soken, Helsingland, Sweden, May 24, 1834, but was only twelve years of age when his parents cast their lot with the first company of men and women who sought a home in this county and founded the colony at Bishop Hill. He had received none of the educational advantages of the land of his birth, and did not attend school after he came to America, but being of a investigative turn of mind and very fond of books and study, he early acquired more than the rudiments of a good education. For a number of years he worked as one of the colonists, and then upon its incorporation he engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself, purchasing first a small tract of land, which now forms a **part of his homestead farm**. Later, as fortune favored his earnest endeavor, he added to the original tract until he had three hundred and twenty acres, all good land, at the time of his death, and later his family bought forty acres more. On this farm are up-to-date buildings and surrounding the house a fine yard which sets off the beauties of the home so that it is one of the most attractive places in Weller township. Another fea-



OLOF MOLINE



ture of the farm are the numerous trees, which were all planted by Mr. Moline in early manhood. These likewise contribute greatly to the beauty which distinguishes the place, bearing witness in another manner to the care and thoughtfulness of the owner.

Mr. Moline was twice married. His first wife was Miss Charlotte Johnson, to whom he was united September 24, 1867. She lived only until February 16, 1869, leaving one daughter, Emma. The latter is now the wife of T. Albert, of Galesburg. At Bishop Hill, Mr. Moline married Miss Christine Lundeen, a daughter of Michael Lundeen, who was a well known farmer of Norvala Soken, Helsingland, Sweden, but later in his life removed to Sarrahra Soken. Several children were born of the second marriage. Esther H. and John W. are at home. Louise K. became the wife of E. Johnson and they have removed to California, intending to farm there. David H. spends much of his time upon the homestead. Peter E. has also gone to California. Olive C. is the wife of H. Linda, of Cambridge, Illinois. Clara F. married William Sandquist, a farmer of Cambridge. Lillian G., the youngest, became the wife of John Blomberg, of Bishop Hill.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Moline was an adherent of the democratic party and besides taking part in all the local elections, rendered the township efficient service during a period of twenty-seven years as a member of the school board, and for another long time as highway commissioner. He was a charter member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church and was ever among those who took an active part in all its business and social affairs, for he was one of its board of trustees until his death. Wherever he was known—and that was widely throughout the township—he was beloved. He was a man who had few if any enemies, for uprightness and integrity characterized all his dealings and his interest in the public welfare will long be remembered. Ever a hard worker, a good citizen, and a kind father, his memory is cherished by many, but especially by the members of his family who survive him.

---

### SAMUEL DICKSON

Samuel Dickson at the age of seventy-five years is living retired in Kewanee and the success which crowns earnest, persistent effort is his, enabling him now to enjoy the comforts of life without further recourse to labor. He was for some time connected with general farming and house moving and his persistent energy and unfaltering industry made him one of the representative business men of Henry county. He was born in Knox county, Ohio, June 29, 1834. His grandfather was a native of Ireland and on coming to America settled in the state of New York. His father, Samuel Dickson, Sr., was born in the state of New York in 1791 and when a young man removed to Ohio, settling in Knox county, where he followed general farming until his death, which there occurred in 1867. He served as a soldier of the war of 1812. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Rood) Dickson, was a daughter of Nov. Rood, a native of Ohio. She was married in

Knox county to Samuel Dickson and there resided until her death, which occurred in 1875.

In the district schools of his native county Samuel Dickson pursued his early education. Leaving school he worked on his father's farm until twenty years of age and gained intimate knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He then came to Illinois, casting in his lot among the early settlers of Henry county. He settled in Wethersfield township, where he engaged in breaking prairie under contract for three years. His labors took him as far as Council Bluffs and he had as high as seventy-two head of oxen which were attached to breaking plows. In the meantime he also began house moving and digging ditches and tiling. His energy and ambition enabled him to seize every opportunity for the conduct of the successful business for which he was qualified and as he started out he determined to win success if it could be done by persistent and earnest effort. In the early period of his residence here he bought eighty acres of land on section 30, Wethersfield township, which he broke and placed under cultivation. At length he purchased an adjoining tract of fifty acres on section 19. After that he confined the greater part of his time and energies to the farm work, although he did not entirely abandon his other lines of business. About two years later he bought an adjoining tract of eighty acres on the south, making his farm a complete quarter section, and with the fifty acres on section 19 his possessions aggregated two hundred and ten acres. His land is all improved and under a high state of cultivation, the place presenting a most neat and attractive appearance. He continued personally to till the soil until 1892, when he rented his farm and removed to Kewanee, after which he confined his entire time to house moving. In 1893 he purchased an acre of land at the corner of Rose and Franklin streets in Kewanee, where he has since lived. He continued as an active factor in business until 1901, when he retired and now gives his attention merely to the supervision of his farm property, from which he derives a substantial annual income.

On the 10th of December, 1857, in Wethersfield, Mr. Dickson was married to Miss Ann E. Prather, a daughter of Thomas Prather, a well known farmer of Knox county, Ohio, and later of Wethersfield, where he died November 11, 1854, at the age of sixty-two years. Mrs. Dickson was born in Knox county, Ohio, June 25, 1834, and there lived until 1853, when she accompanied her parents on their removal to Wethersfield. She died at her home in Kewanee August 9, 1899, at the age of sixty-five years, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family. By her marriage she had become the mother of four children, three sons and a daughter. Elwood, the eldest, was born December 20, 1859, and follows the business of house moving in this part of the state, making his home, however, in Kewanee. Pitt, the second son, was born September 12, 1864, and died January 14, 1866. Minnie, born March 8, 1868, was for a number of years a school teacher in Kewanee and was well known and liked by all. She died March 16, 1895, and her passing was deeply regretted by many who knew her. States, the youngest of the family, was born November 8, 1870, and makes his home in Kewanee but at the present time is employed as a claim agent by James B. Clow & Company of Chicago.

In politics Mr. Dickson is a staunch democrat, usually voting the straight ticket at presidential and state elections, but at local elections often casting an independent ballot. He has never sought nor desired office but is always loyal in citizenship and is interested in the welfare of the community. His life has been well spent and those who know him entertain for him warm regard by reason of the fact that he has made good use of his opportunities and has always been fair and honorable in his relations with his fellowmen.

---

### GEORGE W. FARNAM.

George W. Farnam, a native farmer of Cornwall township, was born April 13, 1866, and is a son of John S. and Elizabeth (Tompkins) Farnam. The mother was born in Tiskilwa, Illinois, in 1837, while the father was born in Canaan, New Hampshire, in 1833. At the age of eighteen years he came to Henry county, Illinois, settling upon the farm in Cornwall township on which his son George W. now lives and which was his home until his death. During the progress of the Civil war he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war, being in the battle of Nashville, in the siege of Atlanta and in the battle of Resaca. Our subject's uncle, George Farnam, also served in the Union army, having enlisted in Kansas City, where he was then residing. He was killed on the first day in battle. A staunch defender of the nation, the father joined the ranks of the republican party and became prominent in local affairs, holding many of the township offices. His death occurred in 1901, while his wife survived until 1903, when she was laid to rest near him in Liberty cemetery. They had six children all living: John W., of Cornwall township; George W., of this review; Laura, the wife of Oliver Nickerson, of Cornwall township; Ella, who makes her home with Mrs. Nickerson; Martin, of Cornwall township; and Mabel, the wife of Walter Sleadorf, of Cornwall township.

George W. Farnam attended the Shabbona Grove school and after the completion of his education remained with his parents on the farm until he was twenty-eight years of age. He continued his studies, however, receiving private instruction in engineering and electricity and then taking a three years' course in steam engineering in a school in Racine, Wisconsin. In 1893 he married and settled upon the farm on which he now lives. It is eighty acres in extent, located on section 10, Cornwall township, on which his father had built the house which he subsequently remodeled. In addition to general agriculture which he pursues, he owns threshing machines, corn shellers, corn shredders and feed grinders, which he operates for the farmers in adjoining townships.

In 1893 Mr. Farnam wedded Miss Jennie Lane, who was born in Munson township, Henry county, February 16, 1872. She was a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Clark) Lane, both natives of England, where the mother was born April 5, 1834, and the father March 11, 1830. At the age of twelve the latter came to America with his parents, settling in New York state. In 1857 he came to Henry county, Illinois, locating first in Munson township and then removing

to Cornwall, where he died December 17, 1909, and was buried in Grand View cemetery, but his wife is still living. He espoused the cause of the democratic party upon becoming a citizen of this republic. Eight children were born to the couple, only seven of whom are now living. They are: Oliver, who resides in Missouri; Sarah, the wife of George Atwell, of Cornwall township; James, also of that township; Hannah, the wife of Iretus Van Housen, of Grand Island, Nebraska; Minnie, the wife of Thomas Devoy, of Cornwall township; Jennie, now Mrs. Farnam; and May, the wife of Ed Werkheiser, of Cornwall township.

Mr. and Mrs. Farnam have had six children, all of whom were born in Cornwall township: Clara Blanche, born November 7, 1894, who is attending the country schools; John, who was born November 28, 1896, and died January 11, 1897, being buried at Liberty; Roland George, born December 29, 1897; Elbert Boyd, born September 29, 1899, who is attending school; Harold Lane, who was born March 20, 1902, and died March 10, 1904; and Morris, who was born April 18, 1905, and died May 2 of the same year.

Like his father, Mr. Farnam is an adherent of the republican party and has occupied an influential position in township affairs. For some years past he has been school director and for twelve years justice of the peace. He is serving the second year as town clerk, his first year as collector, while for four years he has been constable of his township. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen, to whose interests he is devoted. Ambitious, energetic and possessed of considerable business ability, he has made his way in the world entirely through his own efforts so that he well deserves the proud title of a self-made man. He possesses many attractive qualities of personality and a genial nature as well as a broad and liberal mind.

---

#### F. E. GRESSER.

F. E. Gresser, a well known citizen of Atkinson, the representative of several insurance companies in this town, was born in Cabstadt, Germany, September 1, 1843, a son of John G. and Barbara Henrietta (Kachel) Gresser. The father was born in Saxe-Gotha in 1813 and in 1851 came to America in a sailing vessel. He located in Kinderhook, New York, where Martin Van Buren lived retired and died after having served as president of the United States and there for four or five years Mr. Gresser engaged in farming, the pursuit he had followed in the land of his birth. In 1857 he came west to Illinois, settling upon some land he had procured in Atkinson township, Henry county, where he lived and worked until his death, January 20, 1892. His wife, who was born in Saxony, Germany, September 26, 1831, had preceded him to the grave by a little over a year, her death having occurred November 4, 1890. The couple were laid to rest in the cemetery in Geneseo. Their daughter Amelie became the wife of Samuel Cummings, of Chicago, Illinois, and is the mother of two children.

F. E. Gresser, the only son, attended the public schools of Germany for two years before he came to this country and received a little more education in the district schools of Illinois. At the age of fifteen or sixteen he began his business

career as a clerk in a general store, first in Geneseo, and later in Chicago and Aurora. For a few months he was in the government service at Nashville, Tennessee, and then in 1869, after his marriage, he went to live upon a farm in Henry county. After about seven years' experience as an agriculturist he sold his land and again entered the mercantile world, opening a general store in Atkinson, which he conducted until 1891, when he sold his interests and has since devoted himself to public affairs. For a period of six years he was highway commissioner, for four years was police magistrate, for sixteen years was justice of the peace, and for six years, or two terms, served as a member of the village board. Sixteen years ago he was made a notary public and still retains that position. Seeing an opening as an insurance agent he became the representative of the Phoenix Company of Brooklyn; the Hanover, of New York; of the North British Mercantile, of London and Edinburgh; and of several other fire insurance companies. In addition, he was for many years the reporter from Atkinson for the Geneseo News, when that paper was owned by Henry L. Kiner, so that his acquaintance with the different walks of life has been varied and has given him a broad outlook.

On the 28th of October, 1869, Mr. Gresser wedded Miss Christine Dannenfelser, who was born in Sharon, Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois, May 5, 1848. Her parents, Frederick and Marie E. (Schuck) Dannenfelser, were both natives of Germany, the former born in 1808, the latter in 1810, and they came to America in 1838. They located first in Rock Island county, Illinois, and then removed to Portland township, Whiteside county, where they engaged in farming, until they retired from active life and located in Geneseo. There they passed away, the mother, October 20, 1895, when she was eighty-five years of age, the father May 2, 1889, in the eighty-second year of his age. They are buried in Geneseo. Their children were: Jacob, who died at the age of sixty-eight years; Elizabeth, the wife of John Freed, of Rock Island; William, of Pueblo, Colorado; Christine, the wife of Mr. Gresser; Carrie, who married A. F. Oberle, of Geneseo; and Julia, the wife of S. S. Ott, of Topeka, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Gresser are the parents of six children. Edwin S., born August 7, 1870, married Miss Ora Huff, of Topeka, Kansas, and they have one daughter, Helen M., who was nine years old in January, 1909. The family lives in Topeka. Grant, born August 5, 1873, married Miss Marie Shepper, of Moline, Illinois, and lives in Atkinson. He has two children: Earle, aged two, and Josie Marie, who was born April 24, 1909. Maude, born December 25, 1879, died two years later and was buried in Geneseo. Clarence E., born in Atkinson, March 11, 1883, married Miss Leonora Miller, of Topeka, Kansas, and has there taken up his residence. Clark J., born August 5, 1885, married Miss Clara Caton, of Topeka, where is now his home. Rollin F., born May 12, 1891, also lives in Topeka, Kansas, where he is taking a business course at college.

Mrs. Gresser united with the Baptist church of Geneseo when she was eighteen years of age, but since coming to Atkinson has affiliated with the Congregational church, in which she is very active, being chairman of the work committee. Politically Mr. Gresser gives his support to the republican party, having cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He has taken an active interest in all public affairs, and when the people have chosen him to fill any office he has

fulfilled his duties carefully and honorably, to their entire satisfaction. Having guided his own life by sound principles, he has reared his five sons in accordance with the same standards and they are a great credit to him. Genial and kind-hearted he has made many staunch friends, who are always made welcome in his pretty and comfortable home, over which his wife presides with grace and dignity.

---

### JOHN G. GUSTAFSON.

After long years devoted to arduous toil John G. Gustafson feels that he is justified in retiring from active participation in agricultural pursuits and upon his home on section 28, Western township, just outside the corporate limits of Orion, lives in the enjoyment of the results of a life well spent. He was born in Sweden April 20, 1844, and is a son of Andrew Gustafson. In 1851, in company with his parents and the rest of their family he came to the United States. They located first in Lynn township this county, where Mr. Gustafson, Sr., secured a tract of land, that in the course of years rapidly grew in area until, toward the close of his life, he was the owner of five hundred and twenty acres. Ten children were born to him and his wife. Andrew, the eldest, served as a soldier in the Civil war, was twice married, and when he died in Lynn township left three children. Gust W. died in Western township, leaving four children. John G. is the third of the family. Charlotte F. became the wife of Thomas Baldwin and they had one daughter, who has survived her mother, who died in Iowa. Frank Oscar lives in Missouri and has two children. Hans C. is a telegraph operator in Iowa and has four children. Alvin R. married but died in Missouri. Wesley O. lives in the same state. Charles Theodore also lives in Missouri, married and has seven children. Albert the youngest, died in Missouri leaving three children.

John G. Gustafson grew to manhood upon the home farm in Lynn township, and he attended the common school of the district from which he received a fair training in the rudimentary branches of English education. Shortly after he reached man's estate he began to do for himself, although it was not until he married that he became really enrolled among the agriculturists of Henry county. In 1871, he went to live upon the old homestead and later removed to a place of eighty acres in Lynn township, which was a gift from his father. His two sons were born upon that place, but in the course of years he sold that land and came to Western township, where he first bought eighty acres, paying seventy-five dollars an acre. Later he purchased forty acres more for which he paid at the rate of sixty-five dollars, and lastly he added another eighty acres to this tract, paying eighty dollars an acre. These frequent additions to his landholdings are tangible indication of the success with which he has gained as a tiller of the soil. As he has spared neither his own labor nor the expenditure of money which would contribute to the advancement of his interest or increase the productiveness of his fields, he has been rewarded with harvests which entitled him to be known as one of the prominent farmers of his locality. In addition to his agricultural property he owns two residences in Galesburg.

In Cambridge, Illinois, December 25, 1871, Mr. Gustafson wedded Miss Elizabeth Weech, whose home was in Knox county, this state. She was born in Somerton, Somersetshire, England, February 9, 1851, and is a daughter of Joseph and Martha (White) Weech. In 1859 her parents came to the United States, settling in Oneida, Knox county, Illinois, where they lived for a time before they secured the farm on which she grew to maturity. She received a fair common-school education there. She was the eighth in a family of ten children. The others were Ann, who married Daniel Cox, in England, but died in Linn county, Kansas, leaving four children; Steve who also lived in Linn county, Kansas, and left three children when he died; Daniel, who died in Linn county, Kansas, leaving three children; Joseph, who lives upon the homestead in Oneida, Knox county, Illinois, where he is rearing his ten children; Jane, who is the wife of Julius Rose, of Linn county, Kansas, and has ten children; Sarah, who married William Cox, by whom she had four children, and after his death became the wife of John Burnison, who lives near Brooks, Iowa; Mary, who wedded John Burnison, and died in Red Oak, Iowa, leaving four children; James who lives at San Bernardino, California, and has two children; and John, who lives at London Mills, Illinois, and has four children.

Mr. and Mrs. Gustafson have had two sons: Dr. Joseph Ansley Gustafson and John E. Gustafson, sketches of whose lives appear elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Gustafson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views Mr. Gustafson has been a stanch republican since the time when he cast his first presidential ballot for Grant in 1868. He has however, steadily refused any office which the people might bestow upon him, feeling that his private interests demand the greater part of his time.

---

#### FORREST MICHISON LOWES.

Forrest Michison Lowes is prominently connected with the profession which has important bearing upon the welfare and stable prosperity of any community. Since 1899 he has continuously practiced law in Geneseo and has been identified with much of the important litigation heard in the courts of Henry county. His birth occurred in Atkinson township, this county, November 26, 1874, and he is the youngest of the three living children of William and Martha (Michison) Lowes, both of whom were natives of England. The paternal grandfather spent his entire life in England and following his demise his widow came to America and died in Atkinson, Illinois, when more than eighty years of age. The maternal grandparents were also natives of the "Merrie Isle" and Mr. Michison there followed coal mining until his death, which occurred when he was well advanced in years.

William Lowes, the father of our subject, became a coal miner in England and in 1869 crossed the Atlantic to America, settling in Cleveland, Illinois, where he followed the same pursuit. Later he removed to Munson township, Henry county, where for a short time he operated a mine of his own and later he conducted a mine in Atkinson township. In 1881 he removed to Geneseo where

he entered upon the manufacture of brick and tile in partnership with his brother-in-law, John Mowbray, with whom he was associated for many years. He was recognized as one of the prominent representatives of industrial life in this locality and his enterprise and energy constitute the salient features in the success which he won. He served as supervisor for several years and was active in community interests, his support being given to many measures for the general good. He died September 17, 1908, at the age of sixty-three years and is still survived by his widow. They were the parents of five sons and a daughter, of whom three have passed away. The others are: William, now a resident of Sedgwick, Colorado; Elizabeth, the wife of Frank W. Sherman, also of Sedgwick; and Forrest M.

The last named has spent his entire life in Henry county, and has lived in Geneseo since 1881, with the exception of a few years passed in Chicago. He was graduated from the Geneseo high school with the class of 1893 and then entered the state university of Illinois at Champaign, where he spent two years. Subsequently he matriculated in the Northwestern Law School at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1897. The same year he was admitted to practice in the state and federal courts. While attending the university he played third baseman on the baseball team and was greatly interested in athletics. Following his graduation he entered the law office of ex-United States District Attorney Thomas E. Milchrist, of Chicago, with whom he remained for two years thus putting his theoretical training to practical test. In 1899 he opened a law office in Geneseo, where he practiced continuously since. He prepares his cases with precision and care, his analysis is sound, his reasoning logical and his deductions are usually correct. He is also known in industrial circles as manager of the brick and tile business which was formerly conducted by his father and uncle, both of whom are now deceased.

Mr. Lowes attends the Unitarian church and belongs to Stewart Lodge, No. 92, F. & A. M., and to Geneseo Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M. He belongs also to the Sigma Chi, a college fraternity. His political endorsement has been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he served for two years as police magistrate in Geneseo. He finds his chief source of recreation in baseball and other athletic interests and made somewhat of a reputation in the former, both at Champaign and while in Chicago. He is an alert, energetic young man, who quickly notes and eagerly grabs every opportunity that is presented and in professional circles he is making continuous and substantial advance.

---

#### ALPHONSUS DEPOORTER.

The Rev. Alphonsus Depoorter, one of the most distinguished and beloved priests of the Catholic clergy, and for nine years before his untimely death rector of the parish of Atkinson, passed away March 22, 1909, at Santa Rosa Infirmary, San Antonio, Texas. He was born August 1, 1872, at Poucques, Belgium, a son of Ivo and Louise (Van Landeghem) Depoorter, both natives of

Belgium, where the father was born June 24, 1827, and the mother in 1835. His mother died in 1890, aged fifty-five years, and is buried in her native land. The father came to America in 1893, and in 1899 he located in Henry county, Illinois, dying in Atkinson, in 1906, and is buried there, his son Father Depoorter reading high mass at his funeral services. He and his excellent wife had a large family, there being nine still living: Mary, a sister in a Belgian convent; Alberic, a resident of Moline, Illinois; Emma, who lives in Atkinson and during her brother's pastorate here was his housekeeper; Medard, a farmer of Atkinson township; Camille, also a nun in Belgium; Philipine who married Joseph Ballweg, of Nebraska; the late Father Depoorter; Aloysius, who lives in Annawan, Illinois; Hortense, a resident of Davenport, Iowa; and Helen, who married Frank Weibel, of Nebraska.

Father Depoorter attended the public schools of Belgium until he was about ten years old, when he entered the college of Thielt, Belgium, graduating from there to go to the Rousselaere College, and after graduation from the latter school he entered the seminary of Bruges. From this he went to the great college of Louvain, Belgium, where he acquired a knowledge of English. His college course embraced eleven years, and on April 3, 1897, he was ordained in Belgium. Coming to America afterwards, he was appointed assistant to Father Crowe at Kewanee. After four months he was made pastor in charge of the church at Annawan, and in 1900 he was sent to Atkinson, where he continued throughout the remainder of his brief life. He also gave instruction, being the head of a remarkably good school. The new church at Atkinson was just completed when Father Depoorter came to the parish and through his efforts it was freed from the burden of debt. In 1907 he built St. Anthony's school, a structure of pressed brick, that is modern in every particular. Chairman of the building committee, he had everything in charge and never spared himself in this or any other particular. He had raised the money and was attending to its equipment when sickness overtook him and he never recovered. However, his work remains as a monument to his self-sacrificing life and noble spirit. There were three Sisters in the parochial school when Father Depoorter took charge, and now there are six of the Benedictine order.

While Father Depoorter always voted for the man he deemed best fitted for the office, he probably leaned more toward the democratic party. He belonged to the Catholic Order of Foresters of St. Anthony's Court and was its spiritual advisor, as well as of the Knights of Columbus. Possessed of a broad and liberal spirit, he exerted a wide influence for good and had friends throughout the entire county regardless of religious convictions. In 1908 he was stricken with nervous prostration from the effects of overwork on the school building, and while out on an automobile ride to Geneseo, in September, 1907, he had the misfortune to meet with a serious accident, breaking his collarbone. This proved to be a serious setback and finally he was induced to go to San Antonio, Texas, for a month. While there in Santa Rosa Infirmary, he died in March, 1909, attended by his devoted sister, Miss Emma Depoorter, and his remains were taken back to Atkinson for interment.

The funeral of Father Depoorter was the largest Henry county has ever known and the most imposing, over fifty priests with the bishop attending to do

honor to this distinguished and good man. Thousands of those to whom he had given his friendship gathered, stricken with grief at their loss. Catholic and Protestant stood side by side and mingled their tears. It is impossible to do justice to the magnificent services presided over by Bishop O'Reilly in this brief space. Father Foley and Father Wolters directed the arrangements; Father Julius Devos preached in Belgian on the life of the young priest both in Belgium and here, declaring he was an honor to his family and the glory of his people, as well as the blessing of his parish. Bishop O'Reilly delivered a touching tribute to his faithful worker taken from his charge by death, speaking in English. Special resolutions were adopted by the business and professional men of Atkinson regarding his death, expressing their appreciation of his life and work.

Many of the leading people of Atkinson attended, and the fraternal orders with which he was associated, attended in full regalia. St. Malachy's congregation turned out in a body, prostrated with grief. The ladies of the Atkinson Altar Society donated the vault in which lie the mortal remains of Father Depoorter, which is visited daily by the many whom he helped in trouble or adversity.

Father Depoorter has passed from this mortal sphere after a too brief period here, and yet in the thirty-six years he was here he accomplished much more than those who have more than double that number to their credit. A lover of men, a worker who loved his people, he learned from direct contact with the sources of contemporary knowledge and of men, and his associates in the church, the school, the religious and fraternal societies and at large lost the comradeship of a noble soul. Any priest might be proud of such a career as that of Father Depoorter; and his is a character to remember with affectionate appreciation. He had conspicuous ability for his calling, for all in his heart were his special charges to be taught and led gently and firmly into what he felt was the only path of right living. However, he did not confine his work to church affairs but gave endorsement and aid to those movements he deemed would serve toward a general uplifting of humanity. No better monument can any man have, be he priest or layman, than that which is erected in the hearts of his intimates and shows forth in their lives, and judging by what he accomplished, Father Depoorter did not live in vain but made the world better and purer for his brief stay in it.

---

### HENRY RUMLER.

Henry Rumler, a well known citizen of Atkinson, who is engaged in the hardware business and in selling farm implements, was born in Belgium, April 14, 1854. His parents, Francis and Amelia (Bonne) Rumler, who were also natives of that country, came to America in 1857, settling in Moline, Rock Island county, Illinois. The next year, however, they came to Atkinson, where the father obtained work as a section boss, though in the land of his birth he had been a farmer. He was not long permitted to enjoy the advantages of this country for after only a little more than twelve years' residence here he departed this life in

1869. He was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Atkinson, in which his widow was also laid to rest. Nine children were born to them, six of whom are living: Henry, of this sketch; August, of Atkinson; Mary, the wife of Jacob Broghamer, of Cambridge, Illinois; John, of Atkinson; Wilhelme, the wife of John S. Iman, who lives in Montana; and Amelia, the wife of John Catour, of Atkinson.

Henry Rumler attended the district schools of Atkinson township and assisted his father with the work on the farm until twenty-one years of age, when he rented a part of the farm and in connection with its operation ran a corn sheller and threshing machine. In 1892 he and John S. Nowers bought the hardware stock of John Johnston, who had been in business here for years and established their store on State street. Besides a line of stoves, pumps and general hardware, they deal in farm implements, carrying windmills, Deering, binders, the J. I. Case and G. A. R. Scott threshing machines and other machinery used on a farm. Mr. Rumler devotes the greater part of his attention to this branch of the business, while his partner takes charge of the hardware department. Although so many of his interests are in the town of Atkinson, he still lives on his farm, about one mile west of the village, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. His wife in her own right owns eighty acres in Cornwall township, so that they are closely identified with agricultural interests.

On the 15th of November, 1877, Mr. Rumler wedded Miss Wilhelme Bonwhuis, a daughter of Anthony and Theresa (Van Landschoot) Bonwhuis, both natives of Holland. The father was born in the city of Heerenveen, in 1820, and came to America in 1846, in one of the old sailing vessels, it requiring forty days to cross the ocean. He settled first in Wisconsin, which was then just beginning to be colonized by white people, who were greatly outnumbered by the red men. In fact Mr. Bonwhuis used to say that it was no infrequent occurrence for him to have his Sunday dinner in the company of these children of the forest. Leaving Wisconsin, Mr. Bonwhuis went to Rock Island, Illinois, and in 1865 came to Atkinson, where he opened a general store on State street, where his daughter Mrs. Goldberg, is now engaged in business. He retired from active life a few years before his death, which occurred in July, 1907. His first wife was Miss Theresa Van Landschoot also a native of Holland, whom he wedded in Rock Island in 1855. She passed away in 1863, and two years later, in St. Louis, Mr. Bonwhuis married Miss Demphinne Hendricks, who died February 18, 1907. There were three children by the first marriage: Christine, the wife of Peter Goldberg, of Atkinson; Wilhelme, now Mrs. Rumler; and Mary, the wife of August Rumler.

Mr. and Mrs. Rumler have had seventeen children: Frank, the eldest, died at the age of two years; William H., born January 13, 1880, is in Dallas, South Dakota, where he is interested in automobiles; Annie is the wife of Peter De Reu, of Atkinson township, and they have four children, William, Edna, Alma and Roy; Edward married Miss Elizabeth Egert, of Atkinson, and they have two children, Blanche and Carl Joseph; Elizabeth is in Nauvoo, Illinois; Albert is at home, as are the remaining children who are alive, Charles, John, Henry, Alfred, Jennie, Amandus Calvin, Mary, Irene and Frances; Agnes, the eleventh child is deceased; and the fifteenth died in infancy. The children have received their edu-

cation in the schools of Atkinson and are being reared in the faith of the Catholic church, to which the parents owe devoted allegiance.

In his political views Mr. Rumler does not confine himself to any one party but casts his vote for the man he believes best suited for office. While not an office seeker, he has rendered the community valuable services as highway commissioner and as a member of the school board, in both of which capacities he served for ten years. A man of strong principles and fine character, progressive and enterprising, he is well known throughout Henry and adjoining counties and is highly respected. His success is the result of his own efforts and might be envied were it not so well deserved.

---

### MILTON T. BOOTH.

Milton T. Booth, a successful hardware merchant of Atkinson, where he has been engaged in business since 1905, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, on the 27th of October, 1869, his parents being C. N. and Henrietta (Tyler) Booth. The father, whose birth occurred in England, October 11, 1841, was brought to the United States when but two years of age. He followed farming throughout his active business career, being identified with general agricultural pursuits in Bureau county until 1907, since which time he has lived retired in Atkinson, Illinois. He is a republican in his political views and has capably served in various township offices. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. His wife, whose birth occurred near Hartford, Connecticut, on the 7th of January, 1842, came to this state when a maiden of about thirteen years. She is a devoted and consistent member of the Episcopal church.

Milton T. Booth obtained his early education in the district schools of Providence and Tiskilwa in his native county and afterward pursued his studies in Knox College of Galesburg. He remained on the home farm with his father until he had attained his majority and then went on the road as a fireman, running an engine for a number of years, while subsequently he had charge of government machines during the construction of the Hennepin canal. In 1905 he purchased the hardware stock of J. J. Bloom, of Atkinson, Illinois, and has since successfully conducted the enterprise, dealing in stoves, tinware, gasoline engines, sheet metal, lightning rods, etc. Alert, enterprising and energetic, he has built up an extensive, growing and profitable trade and is widely recognized as one of the prosperous and representative business men of the county.

On the 7th of April, 1892, Mr. Booth was united in marriage to Miss Huldah J. Nelson, whose birth occurred in Princeton, Illinois, on the 10th of August, 1869, her parents being A. P. and Hannah (Eckstrand) Nelson. The father, who was identified with general agricultural pursuits in Bureau county, Illinois, passed away October 16, 1895. The mother still survives and makes her home in Bureau county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Booth have been born four children, as follows: Edith Darlene, who first opened her eyes to the light of day in Providence, Illinois, on the 13th of April, 1893, and is now a student in the Atkinson high school; Adeline Johannah, who was born in Providence on the 19th of Aug-

ust, 1895, and now attends grammar school; Maude Nelsie, whose birth occurred in Providence, August 1, 1897, and who is also attending school; and Alice Dorothy, who was born in Atkinson on the 19th of February, 1903.

Politically Mr. Booth is a stalwart advocate of the republican party, while fraternally he is identified with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen. As a citizen he is public spirited to an eminent degree, deeply interested in the welfare of his community. All who know him entertain for him respect, while those who come within the closer circle of his acquaintance find him a genial gentleman and delight in his companionship.

---

#### CLARENCE THOMAS WARD.

The needs of his home farm make steady demands upon the time and energies of Clarence Thomas Ward, who owns one hundred and eighteen acres on section 31, Atkinson township, and eighty acres in Geneseo township. A native of the former township, he was born in the house he now occupies March 8, 1875, his parents being Joseph and Anna (French) Ward. The former was born in Somersetshire, England, January 13, 1836, and lived in the land of his birth until he was seventeen years of age, when, determined to try the opportunities said to abound in the United States, he crossed the Atlantic. He was in all probability the first of his family to come to this country, although two brothers, Benjamin and Thomas, came here later. He remained in New York state for two years after reaching our shores, obtaining work and attending school for a short period. When he was nineteen he started westward, reaching Henry county, Illinois, November 5, 1855. Here he found employment by the month, but in 1856, having married, he purchased the place where his son Clarence T. is now living. A few improvements had been begun and a frame house started, but for some time he and his wife lived in a log cabin. Later he erected other buildings, and as he won a pronounced success from cultivating the soil he invested in other farm property, buying eighty acres in Geneseo township and one hundred and sixty acres in Minnesota. A man who had been thrown upon his own resources early in life, he knew the full value of persistent industry and economy, and it was due entirely to his own efforts that he gained the success that enabled him to retire to Geneseo in 1893. There his last ten years were spent, his demise occurring May 2, 1903. On becoming a citizen of this nation he allied himself with the republican party and, while upholding its principles, was always loyal to the country of his adoption and rendered his community valuable services during the years he was school director.

On the 24th of June, 1856, Joseph Ward married Miss Anna Maria French, who still survives him. They were the parents of nine children, Elizabeth became the wife of William Chrisop and lives in Jamesport, Missouri, where she is rearing her two sons, George F., now residing in Phenix township, married Mary Key and they have three children. Elmer and Ella E. were twins. The former died at the age of three years, but the latter is now the wife of George

Matson and lives in Geneseo. She is the mother of four children. Henry died at the age of seven years. Lily became the wife of William Mowbray and died at the age of twenty-eight years. A twin of Clarence Thomas died at birth. Bertha is the wife of Hartz Matson, of Citronelle, Alabama, and they have two children.

Clarence Thomas Ward was reared upon the home farm in Atkinson township, receiving his elementary education in the district schools. When about sixteen years of age he entered the high school at Geneseo and the following fall became a student in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, which he attended for two winters. At the age of seventeen, however, he had started to make his way in the world by working for farmers by the month. In 1895 he married and assumed charge of the home place, to whose cultivation he has devoted himself since. He is progressive in his farming, utilizing modern methods and machinery, and has found his labors rewarded by a handsome income, which has enabled him to carry forward the improvements upon his place, for in 1907 he bought the homestead and since that date has put up a modern crib and granary combined, has erected a corn elevator and built a new hog house. Of recent years he has given more and more time to stock raising and feeding, and as his animals have found a ready market he regards this enterprise as profitable. Through close application and indefatigable energy he has achieved the success which he now enjoys and which is well deserved.

On the 27th of March, 1895, in Geneseo, Mr. Ward was united in marriage to Miss Grace Edwards, who was born in Western township, this county, April 23, 1869, a daughter of Herbert and Harriet (Gordon) Edwards. The former was born in Vermont in 1825, grew to manhood in that state and then with his parents drove through the mountains and over the prairies to Moline, Illinois, where he followed his trade as a mason. There he met Miss Harriet Gordon, who later became his wife. She was born near Battle Creek, Michigan, and when three years old, in 1836, came with her parents to Henry county, and it is believed that her brother Henry Gordon, and his twin sister, Henrietta, who is now Mrs. Cos-sun, of Moline, were the first white children born in this county. Her father, Amos Gordon, lived to see a great change wrought in the character of this section of the state, for he was ninety-nine years of age when he died in Moline. His wife also lived to witness these changes, for she had passed the ninetieth milestone on life's journey before called to her final rest. One of her sons, Daniel, is still living in Moline at the age of eighty-seven years. For a short time after his marriage Herbert Edwards was engaged in farming in Rock Island county, living near Moline, and then in 1867 they removed to Western township, Henry county, where Mrs. Ward was born, as was her sister who is now Mrs. Abel Ward. Mr. Edwards died in Western township about 1884, but his widow is still living and resides in Geneseo at the advanced age of seventy-six years. After the death of her father Mrs. Ward removed with her mother to Geneseo, where she attended the high school and later the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, and was within two months of graduating from the latter when she was compelled to abandon her studies on account of ill health. She then undertook a course in music and received her diploma from that department of the institute in 1888. The subsequent five years were devoted to teaching music, in which she attained a marked success.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ward, namely: Harold, who was born on their present home, September 8, 1896; one who died in infancy; Florence L., who was born September 6, 1900; Frank G., March 1, 1903; and Wilbur J., February 25, 1905.

Mr. Ward is a stalwart champion of the principles of the republican party and a sincere friend of the cause of education, as was manifest during the nine years of his acceptable service as school director. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church and their lives have exemplified the principles of Christianity, so that they are highly regarded in the community as persons of genuine worth.

---

### ROBERT ALLEN.

The agricultural and stock-raising interests of Henry county find a worthy representative in Robert Allen, who owns and operates the farm on which he lives on section 30, Cornwall township. He was born near his present home, November 8, 1867, and is a son of William and Margaret (Martin) Allen. The father was born in Belfast, Ireland, where he grew to manhood and was married, and three of his children were born there before he determined to emigrate to America to give them the advantages of life in this new world. Six weeks were consumed in crossing the Atlantic, and several more before he and his family reached Cornwall township, for they came to Henry county, Illinois, immediately after landing. The Civil war had just been inaugurated at that time, and shortly after his arrival Mr. Allen was called into the army, but as he was not a citizen he was not subject to draft and when he went to Peoria was excused from serving. On taking up his residence in Cornwall township he rented a farm but with the intention of obtaining the best results from his labor, he saved carefully and later bought eighty acres of land on section 29, where the schoolhouse now stands. Subsequently he was able to buy the eighty acres on which his son Robert now lives and finally eighty acres to the north of this last tract on which his son Henry resides. For all of the land he paid fifty dollars an acre, and his property is a visible evidence of the success which attended his farming operations. He had been reared in the Presbyterian faith and became a member of that church at Cornwall, while in politics he was a republican. The hope which led him to establish his home here was realized, for not only was he able to enjoy many comforts but he had the satisfaction of knowing that his children were well established. They were eight in number, of whom seven reached maturity and five are still living. The first three were born in Ireland, but the others in Henry county. Sarah died at the age of six. She was taken ill about the time her parents intended starting for America, and her mother remained behind with her, while her father and the two other children continued their journey. John is unmarried. Ellen is also unmarried and lives in Kewanee. William died unmarried. James is a resident of Kewanee and has not married. Anna became the wife of Frank Leonard and died in Osco township, leaving three children. A

sketch of Henry, the twin brother of Robert, follows. Mr. Allen died in March, 1901, and his wife had passed away a few years previously.

Robert Allen was reared upon the paternal farm and is indebted to the district schools for the educational opportunities he enjoyed. Even as a boy he obtained thorough preparation for his life work through the assistance he rendered his father on the farm, giving him the benefit of his labor until he attained his majority, when he and his brother Henry were given a share in the crops. Later their father gave to each eighty acres, while the third tract was given to their sister, Mrs. Leonard. After her death Robert Allen and his brother bought her share between them, so that now each owns one hundred and twenty acres. On this Mr. Allen raises a variety of crops, and as in every department of farm work he has shown industry, perseverance and good management, he finds that the rich soil makes generous returns in bountiful harvests. Of recent years he had engaged to considerable extent in raising, feeding and shipping stock, in this business also finding his work well repaid by a large and gratifying income.

In the village of Galva, this county, Mr. Allen wedded Miss May Becker, October 25, 1896. She was at that time residing in Cambridge township, where her birth occurred September 11, 1875, her parents being George and Susan (Stewart) Becker. They were natives of New York state and Pennsylvania respectively, but were married in this county, where Mr. Becker followed farming. He is still living in Cambridge township, but his wife was called to her final rest in 1891. They were the parents of five children, namely: Harmon, who died in infancy; May, now Mrs. Allen; Jerry, who is in the employ of the government and resides in Springfield, Missouri; Frank, who is unmarried and lives in Idaho; and Lina, who is the wife of Joseph Talbert and lives in Cambridge, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have one son, Frank, who was born upon the home place, June 13, 1897.

Mr. Allen is a stanch advocate of the principles of republicanism, but has never sought nor desired office as a reward for party fealty. He belongs to Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., and with his wife to the Rebekah lodge at Cambridge. Both are well known and highly esteemed as persons of genuine worth and upright honorable lives not only among their lodge friends but throughout the community, with which they have been identified for so many years.

---

### HENRY RAY ALLEN.

Reared to agricultural pursuits Henry Ray Allen has continued to follow that occupation as his life work and the years have chronicled the substantial success he has won from cultivating the one hundred and twenty acres of land he owns on section 30, Cornwall township. He was born on this section November 8, 1867, a son of William and Margaret (Martin) Allen. The days of his youth passed as do those of the majority of farm lads, the winter months being largely devoted to acquiring an education in the district school, and the summer season to the arduous work in the fields. He early became acquainted with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting, so that by the time he had

attained his majority he was fully competent to carry on farm work profitably. At that age his father gave him and his brother Robert a share in the crops, and when he divided his property deeded him eighty acres. To that tract Mr. Allen added forty acres, by purchase from his sister's heirs, and now has under an excellent state of cultivation one hundred and eighty acres. He has spared no effort to increase the productivity of his soil, and the size and quality of the crops he garners annually are a tribute to his skill, his energy, and his patience.

On the 7th of September, 1901, in Cambridge, Illinois, Mr. Allen wedded Miss Elizabeth Stewart, of that town. She was born at Villisca, Iowa, December 17, 1874, and was about two years of age when her parents, Alexander and Ellen (Lemley) Stewart, removed to Chetopa, Labette county, Kansas. There her father died, and six years later she and her mother took up their residence in Cambridge, Illinois, where she grew to womanhood. After graduating from the Cambridge high school with the class of 1893, she engaged in teaching both in the country schools and in those of the town, following that profession until her marriage. She is the youngest in a family of four, the others being: William, who married Lula Miles, now deceased, and is at present a telegraph operator at Esterbrook, Wyoming; Harry, who wedded Hallie Vincent and is residing in Cambridge township, where he is rearing his five children; and Kinsey, who is also married and is a blacksmith at Lehigh, Iowa. Mrs. Stewart died October 1, 1907, and was buried in Cambridge.

Mr. Allen gives his support to the republican party, and that he is deeply interested in public welfare is manifest in the acceptable service he rendered the community as school director and as road commissioner. Fraternally he is connected with Cambridge Lodge, No. 199, I. O. O. F., and with Annawan Lodge, No. 433, A. F. & A. M., at Atkinson, and with his wife he belongs to Rebekah lodge, No. 157, and to the Cambridge and Atkinson lodges of the Eastern Star. In the Cambridge Eastern Star Mrs. Allen has served as Adah and associate conductress and being a woman of attractive personality the circle of her friends is continually growing. Mr. Allen also has the regard of many, for his life, established upon sound principles of upright manhood, is one which may bear close inspection and command respect.

---

### CYRUS H. BROOKS.

Cyrus H. Brooks, who for the past seven years has lived retired in Galva, was for many years extensively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits and is still the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of valuable and highly improved land in Henry county. His birth occurred in Grafton, Vermont, on the 17th of September, 1828, his parents being George and Salina (Houghton) Brooks, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. Solomon Brooks, the paternal grandfather, was also born in Vermont and followed farming as a life work. He was numbered among the early settlers of Peoria county, Illinois, and passed away at Brimfield in 1854, when almost ninety years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Amelia Fisher, survived him for a num-

ber of years and was also about ninety years old at the time of her demise. Unto them were born two sons and three daughters, as follows: Cyrus, George, Mary, Martha and Elvira. The founder of the Brooks family in this country was also named Solomon Brooks. He came to America from England with two brothers, David and Daniel, and took up his abode in Vermont. He had a son Solomon, who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Darius Houghton, who was a native of Vermont, settled in the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois, in an early day and there passed away when between eighty and ninety years of age. His wife, Mrs. Amelia Houghton, also lived to a ripe old age. Their children were five in number, namely: Leland, Giles, Rudolphus, Salina and Elvira.

George Brooks, the father of Cyrus H. Brooks, came to Illinois in 1841 and for three years made his home at Olney, Richland county. Subsequently he removed to Brimfield, Peoria county, where he resided for twenty years and during that entire period hauled his products to Peoria—a distance of twenty miles. He was a farmer by occupation and underwent many of the hardships and dangers of life in a pioneer district where deer and wolves still roamed at will. On leaving Peoria county he took up his abode in Galva township, Henry county, where he owned and operated a farm of forty acres. His death, which occurred in Galva when he was eighty-four years of age, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He was well known and highly esteemed as one of the worthy pioneer settlers of this part of the state, whose labors had contributed in substantial measure to its early development and upbuilding. His wife had preceded him to the home beyond by ten or twelve years. They reared a family of five sons and three daughters, as follows: Cyrus H., of this review; Elzina, the widow of Luther Gould, of California; Orrin, who is deceased; Darius, a resident of Creston, Iowa; Mary, the wife of John Evans, of Union county, Iowa; Henry, who has also passed away; Luther, living in Douglas, Wyoming; and Amelia, the deceased wife of David Emery, of Galva.

Cyrus H. Brooks, who was thirteen years of age when he came to this state with his parents, grew to manhood in Peoria county and was there married when a young man of twenty-six years. In 1862 he took up his abode in Henry county and bought eighty acres of land in Walnut Grove township, Knox county, while later he purchased a quarter section in Weller township, this county, making his home thereon until 1882. He then removed to a farm in the western edge of the corporation of Galva, where he resided for a period of twenty years. At the end of that time he put aside the active work of the fields and has since lived retired in Galva, making his home on North Hurd street, better known as "Heaven" street. He bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Union county, Iowa, and gave it to his son LeRoy. He likewise purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the state of Kansas which is still in his possession. His landed holdings in this county embrace five hundred and sixty acres and some idea of their value may be gained from the fact that he has refused two hundred dollars an acre for his land around Galva. The success which attended his labors as an agriculturist came as the merited reward of his intelligently directed and untiring industry and he is now enabled to spend his remaining days in well earned ease amid all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

On the 19th of February, 1854, Mr. Brooks was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Jane Miles, of Elmwood, Illinois. She was a native of New York city and her parents, Freeman and Ruth Emma (Woodward) Miles, were born in Massachusetts. They became early settlers of this state, locating in Elmwood, Peoria county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Their union was blessed with three children: Amelia Jane, Rosa and Alfred. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brooks have been born five children. LeRoy, a resident of Corvallis, Benton county, Oregon, married Miss Alice Chase, of Peoria, Illinois, and they have seven children—Ethel, who married John Taylor, Earle, Clarence, Cyrus, Ruth, Raymond and Herman, all residing in Corvallis. Elsie died at the age of sixteen years. Emma, living in Walnut Grove township, Knox county, Illinois, is the wife of William Harris, by whom she has four children—Floyd, Raleigh, William and Elsie. Elura makes her home in Galva and is the wife of Bert W. Cole, by whom she has three daughters—Verna, Ruby and Neva. Rosa is still at home.

Mr. Brooks gives his political allegiance to the republican party and for a number of years held the office of supervisor in Walnut Grove township. Both he and his wife are valued and consistent members of the Congregational church, in which he is serving as deacon. His life has been actuated by high and honorable principles and he fully merits the respect and esteem which is uniformly accorded him. Having made his home in this county for almost a half century, he has a wide and favorable acquaintance here and has long been numbered among the most prosperous, substantial and leading citizens of the community.

---

#### ELWOOD MAHLON BOTHWELL.

Elwood Mahlon Bothwell is a progressive and enterprising young farmer of Western township, Henry county, whose diligence, energy and perseverance are meeting with most gratifying success in agricultural lines. Born upon the farm which is now his home, his birth occurred on the 25th of March, 1881, his parents being Leonard R. and Florence (Lloyd) Bothwell, well known farming people of this township, extended mention of whom is made on another page of this volume. He was reared to manhood on the home farm and in the public schools of Orion acquired a good education which well fitted him for the responsible and practical duties of life. When not engaged with his text-books he was busily at work in the fields and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil. As his years and strength increased he assisted more and more largely in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting, and continued to give his father the benefit of his assistance until he arrived at years of maturity, when he entered business life on his own account. In partnership with his father and younger brother he has since been engaged in the operation of the home farm and his labors have been no small factor in bringing the place under its present high state of cultivation. He has made a close study of agriculture and is up-to-date and progressive in his methods, so that his efforts have been crowned with a most gratifying success.

It was on the 22d of November, 1905, in Cambridge, that Mr. Bothwell was united in marriage to Miss Estella Nelson, who was born in Andover township and is a daughter of Victor and Anna (Streed) Nelson, both of whom are of Swedish descent. Her father, who was a farmer by occupation, died when she was about eighteen years of age, while her mother is still living and makes her home in Cambridge. Mr. and Mrs. Bothwell are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they are actively and helpfully interested, while they stand high in the community in which they reside.

Politically Mr. Bothwell is a republican but he has never sought nor desired public preferment as the reward for party fealty. Having passed his entire life in Western township, he has gained an extensive circle of friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances, his many excellent traits of character having won for him the unqualified regard, respect and good will of his fellowmen.

---

#### JOSEPH ANSLEY GUSTAFSON, M. D.

Dr. Joseph Ansley Gustafson, one of the promising young physicians of Orion, was born in this county, in February, 1873, and is a son of John G. and Elizabeth (Weech) Gustafson, a sketch of whose lives appears elsewhere in this volume. He was reared upon the paternal farm, either in Western or Lynn township, and after completing the course of instruction prescribed by the local schools entered Knox College, Galesburg, from which he was graduated. Later he took up the study of medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in Chicago, Illinois, receiving from it his medical degree in the spring of 1901. For one year he was house physician in the sanatorium at Galesburg, coming to Orion in 1902. Here he established himself in most modern and convenient offices, which were carefully equipped with the finest kinds of instruments, and the other appointments which are a necessary adjunct of the up-to-date physician and surgeon's appurtenances. With the same determination that marked his course at the different schools in which he prepared for his vocation, when he hesitated not because of a lack of funds but set out to win them by work or teaching, he has met the problems that confronted him as a young practitioner and has gained the success which inevitably comes to those who exert themselves valiantly in seeking for it. He has now a large and lucrative practice and his reputation as a surgeon is growing with the passing years.

On the 31st of October, 1901, Dr. Gustafson wedded Miss Jessica B. Goddard, of Galesburg, who was born in Streator, Illinois, in 1879, and is a daughter of James and Susan R. Goddard, both now deceased. The father was for a number of years a farmer but later in his life he removed to Galesburg, where he became identified with the best interests of the city. He was a democrat in his political sympathies, was city treasurer of Galesburg and inspector of live stock. Two other children were born to him and his wife. Mabel became the wife of Fred R. Hinman, the chief of police in Galesburg. James Robinson also lives in that city. Dr. and Mrs. Gustafson have had two children: one who died in infancy; and Joseph Goddard, who was born May 6, 1907.

In his political views the Doctor finds himself in sympathy with the republican party, and as a member of the town board has taken part in the local government of Orion. Fraternally he enjoys pleasant relations with the Mystic Workers, while he is a devout member of the Baptist church, in harmony with whose teachings he has endeavored to order his life. In 1906 he bought the pretty home he occupies on Bank and Washington streets, where a gracious hospitality is extended to the numerous friends who visit there and to those who in distress have come to receive aid from the Doctor's ministrations.

---

### HIRAM H. WIGANT.

Hiram H. Wigant, who is now living retired on his farm of one hundred and fifteen acres on section 19, Cornwall township, was formerly actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of this county, owning two hundred and seventy-five acres of rich and productive land. His birth occurred in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, on the 9th of February, 1832, his parents being Abraham and Anna (Hoyt) Wigant, who were natives of Essex county, New Jersey, and Ohio, respectively. It was in the latter state that they were married. Subsequently they removed to Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and about 1836 took up their abode in Louisa county, Iowa, where Abraham Wigant purchased land. In 1850 he and his son Hiram started on the overland journey to the gold fields, the trip between Council Bluffs and Hangtown, California, consuming one hundred and five days. They were successfully engaged in prospecting, mining and merchandising on the Pacific coast for two and a half years, on the expiration of which period they returned to Louisa county, Iowa, via the Isthmus of Panama. Having determined to bring his family to Henry county, Illinois, Abraham Wigant started on the removal to this state in 1855, but his demise occurred ere he had reached his destination and his remains were interred in Mercer county. His wife passed away in Michigan. Their children were eight in number, three of whom grew to years of maturity. Mary Ann, who gave her hand in marriage to James Warnstaff, had a daughter, Elizabeth, who is now the wife of John Graham and makes her home in Louisa county, Iowa. Lucinda, who became the wife of William O. Clark, is a resident of Cambridge, Illinois. She has one son, James, who has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Sarah Caldwell, by whom he had two children. The lady who now bears his name was in maidenhood Miss Mahala Slick. James Clark lives in Geneseo,

Hiram H. Wigant, who was the youngest member of his father's family, was about twenty-three years of age when he took up his abode in this county. At that time he bought land where he now resides in Cornwall township but it was still in a wild state and he resolutely set himself to the task of developing and improving the property. The purchase price was about four dollars an acre. As the years passed he brought the land under a high state of cultivation and his labors were annually rewarded by golden harvests of grain. At one time he was the owner of two hundred and seventy-five acres on sections 18 and 19, Cornwall township, but has sold a large portion of the farm and now lives re-

tired on a tract of one hundred and fifteen acres. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he won a gratifying and well deserved measure of prosperity and has long been numbered among the substantial and respected citizens of the community.

In 1858, in Henry county, Mr. Wigant was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Long, who was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, on the 1st of May, 1840. her parents being Jacob and Nancy (Ryan) Long. They came to this county when their daughter Mary was a young lady of seventeen and she continued as a resident of Cornwall township until her death, which occurred January 23, 1910. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wigant were born seven children, the record of whom is as follows: James, who makes his home in Burns township, wedded Miss Ida Bailey, by whom he has ten children. Nancy, living at Keithsburg, Illinois, gave her hand in marriage to Edward Willard and has become the mother of four children. Mary Belle, a resident of Munson township, is the wife of Charles Druva, by whom she has two children. William Wigant passed away when but three years of age. Samuel, living in Cornwall township, wedded Miss Sarah Clerk and has five children. Frederick, who likewise makes his home in Cornwall township, married Miss Martha Clark, by whom he has five children. Miss Bertha Wigant is still under the parental roof.

Politically Mr. Wigant was reared a democrat and supported the candidates of that party until 1860, when he voted for Abraham Lincoln. He was on the Pacific ocean at the time Franklin Pierce was a presidential candidate and a mock election held on board ship showed the majority in favor of Pierce. Following Lincoln's administration Mr. Wigant voted the republican ticket for many years but in 1896 supported the Nebraska statesman, William Jennings Bryan. The cause of education has ever found in him a stanch friend and he has served both as a school director and school trustee. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than a half century and he has been an interested witness of its growth and development as pioneer conditions have given way before the onward march of civilization. He has almost reached the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey and his career has ever been such that he can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

---

#### GEORGE W. HARTMAN.

One of the finest homes in the town of Atkinson is that occupied by George W. Hartman, who is well known not only in Cornwall township, but throughout Henry county as well, as one of the large stockmen and the most extensive peach grower. This position and all its advantages have come entirely through his own exertions, for he was only eighteen years of age when he started upon his career unaided by any assistance from his father. He was born in Chambersburg, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1859, and is a son of Benjamin and Catherine (Deffenderfer) Hartman, both natives of the Keystone state. The father was born in 1806 and in the years of his active life followed farming, engaging to some extent in the buying and selling of stock and in raising and dis-

posing of fresh vegetables. He died in the state of his birth in 1882, while his wife, who was born June 27, 1820, lived until October 20, 1901. They were the parents of seven children, all living: Charlotte, born June 18, 1840, now the wife of Daniel Gelwick, who lives in Pennsylvania; John W., born January 5, 1842, whose home is in the same state; Samuel, born April 11, 1846, also of Pennsylvania; Daniel, born August 20, 1850, who lives in Pennsylvania; Henry, born May 13, 1855; George W., of this sketch; and Cyrus, born August 15, 1863. In politics the father was a democrat and with his wife was a member of the Lutheran church.

George W. Hartman was educated in the little school of St. Thomas, near Chambersburg, which was known as Gelwick's. He was eighteen when his period of studying was over and immediately started in life for himself. For one year he worked on a farm in his native state and then in the spring of 1877 came to Henry county, locating first in Geneseo and later in Phenix township. For a period of five years he worked for different farmers of the locality in the summer months and in the winter was employed in the coal mines. He then returned to his old home for a year's visit, but as the advantages seemed to be better here he decided to try his fortune in this state. In 1891, he bought one hundred and twenty acres in Cornwall township, settled upon it and made it the scene of his labors until two years ago, when he removed to Atkinson and has here lived since. The many improvements which can be seen upon his farm are all the work of his hand and brain, the tangible evidence of the success with which he carried on operations. He has acquired forty additional acres in Cornwall and one hundred and sixty acres in Atkinson township, making a total of three hundred and twenty acres of arable land, not to mention the residential property, including a good corner on State and Main streets, which he owns in the town of Atkinson. He also operates a coal mine in Atkinson township, so that his interests are many and diversified. His first thought, however, is given to the farm, on which he follows general agriculture and on which he raises and feeds a large amount of stock, which he ships to the eastern markets. He has ten acres on which are one thousand peach trees, the largest orchard of its kind in the county, the crop from which in 1908 netted him one thousand dollars, and in a previous year fifteen hundred dollars. In short, a man with several interests, he has made each yield him the most possible.

When Mr. Hartman came to Illinois the first time, one of his early employers was John P. Foster, whose daughter Nellie was but a child at the time. On leaving there the memory of her companionship remained with him and when he felt able to marry he sought her and persuaded her to share his life with him. On the 6th of March, 1884, they were united in marriage and have now celebrated their silver wedding. Mrs. Hartman was born in Cornwall township, December 9, 1865, and is a daughter of John P. and Harriet (Browning) Foster. The mother was born in White county, Illinois, in 1828, and was a daughter of parents who came to Henry county in the early days, when the Indians were frequently seen and had given the name of Pink Prairie to Cornwall township. The father was born May 11, 1815, in Kentucky, but came to Illinois at an early date, and in Cornwall township engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in December, 1886. His wife passed away August 14, 1892, and like him was buried

in Grand View cemetery, Cornwall township. By their marriage, which was celebrated in 1844, they had nine children, five of whom are now living: Rowena, born August 15, 1848, the wife of Robert Wolever, of Moline, Illinois; Mary Frances, born October 9, 1853, the wife of Ogden Tatum, of Oklahoma; William P., born October 4, 1857, who lives in Atkinson; Lenora, born September 5, 1860, the wife of J. A. Barnes, of Munson township; and Nellie R., now Mrs. Hartman. Politically Mr. Foster was a republican and with his wife was a stanch member of the Methodist church.

Mr. and Mrs. Hartman have had seven children, all living in Cornwall township. They are Frank, born May 10, 1866, unmarried who lives upon his farm; Charles H., born April 8, 1888, who operates his father's land in conjunction with his brother Herbert B., who was born December 31, 1889; George H., born August 7, 1891, who is in the high school; Flora E., born July 27, 1893, at home; Raymond R., born April 18, 1897, a pupil in the grammar school; and Nellie R., born September 10, 1904, who is still the baby of the family.

Politically Mr. Hartman affiliates with the republican party and has held several of the township offices. He belongs to the local lodge of the Woodmen, among whom he has made many friends. Successful in his agricultural pursuits he has also attained to a substantial position in the financial world, for he is a stockholder and trustee in the Savings Bank of Geneseo and has other interests of like character. Refined, liberal and broad-minded, he has every reason to find enjoyment in his good fortune and in the beautiful home he occupies in Atkinson.

---

### ROBERT WILLIAM WOLEVER.

Robert William Wolever, one of the substantial men of Moline, Illinois, and for many years a farmer of Henry county, father of Calvin Franklin Wolever, was born in Elmore township, Peoria county, Illinois, November 23, 1844, a son of John E. and Margaret (Hulsizer) Wolever. The parents came from Warren county, New Jersey in 1837, to Peoria county, Illinois, with a wagon and two horses. In the spring of 1843 they went back to New Jersey for a visit, but returned in 1844, making both trips in the same manner as the first. The father was a blacksmith and farmer. His death occurred in Grandview county, Connecticut, October 4, 1874. The mother died May 10, 1880, and is buried beside her husband. Nine children composed their family, as follows: Edward, who died January 18, 1903; Calvin, deceased; Lydia, deceased wife of Thomas Treckell; Ephlin, who died in January, 1907; Mrs. Mary Langley, a widow, living in Florence, Alabama; Robert William; Barbara, wife of William McBride of Galva, Illinois; Mrs. Ella J. Nowers, of Galva; Olive E., who married David Lucas of Blue Island, Illinois.

The education of Robert William Wolever was secured in the schools of Peoria and Henry counties. He studied reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic, and learned thoroughly this simple course. As a boy he helped his father with the farm. In 1866 he rented the homestead, located on sections 4 and 5, Cornwall township, and operated it until 1884, when he purchased the property from

the heirs and continued to farm it until 1897, with a fair degree of success. In that year he rented the farm and settled in Moline, Rock Island county, Illinois, where he is now living retired. He has been active politically and served as town clerk during the year 1881 in Cornwall township, and as assessor from 1883 to 1889, as well as supervisor from 1881 to 1897.

Mr. Wolever was married, October 25, 1865, to Mahala Fry, who was born in Cornwall township, a daughter of Abraham and Margaret (Laughery) Fry. Mr. Fry's father was a native of England, while his wife came of German ancestry. Born in Ohio, Mr. Fry early came to Cornwall township. He and his wife had eleven children, only two of whom survive,—James and Charles Fry who live in Leeds, South Dakota. Mr. Wolever had one child by his first marriage,—Cora M., who was born August 9, 1866, and married S. W. Bartlett. They live at Pueblo, Colorado, and had two sons: Willis W., who was born May 25, 1898, and died January 27, 1907; and Robert B., born January 20, 1900. Mrs. Mahala Wolever died May 24, 1867.

On September 24, 1868, Mr. Wolever married Roena Foster, at Cambridge, Illinois. She was born in Peru, Illinois, August 15, 1848, daughter of John and Harriet (Browning) Foster, natives of Kentucky and White county, Illinois, respectively, both being now deceased. Mr. Foster was a farmer and was brought to Illinois by his parents at a very early date. In politics he was a republican. He and his wife had four sons and three daughters, five of whom survive: One died in 1844; H. C. is also dead, as are Franklin, and Freland; Roena, born in 1848, is the fifth child; Fannie is the widow of Organ Tatum and lives in Oklahoma; William P. lives in Atkinson, Illinois; Nora married J. A. Barnes and lives in Munson township, Henry county; Nellie married George W. Hartman, of Atkinson. By his second marriage Mr. Wolever had four children, namely: Letha, born May 9, 1869, married J. H. Hughey, March 9, 1892, and died January 13, 1901; Lota, born August 5, 1871, died April 6, 1879; Calvin F. whose sketch is below was the third; Lucy, born May 26, 1881, married F. W. Schneveker, January 31, 1901. They lived in Moline, but she died August 15, 1907, leaving to the care of her mother one son, Chester F., born May 9, 1903.

Mr. Wolever has an interesting war record. He enlisted in Company H, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, September 21, 1861, at Atkinson, Illinois, and was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, December 25, 1864, on account of the expiration of his term of service. The regiment participated in the following battles: Fort Donelson, siege of Corinth, Resaca, Kingston, Rome, Altoona Pass, Savannah, Columbia, Bentonville, and Sherman's march to the sea. During the campaign in Georgia Mr. Wolever received an injury to his left arm which has left it stiff. He was a brave soldier who never shirked any duty and when he returned to private life he gave to the governing authorities the same obedience he rendered his superior officers when a soldier.

Other members of his family also proved their patriotism, for his brother Edward was in Company D, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until July 25, 1864, when he was discharged, having been wounded in the battle of Franklin. Henry C. Foster, the oldest brother of Mrs. Wolever, also served with the Illinois Volunteer Infantry. William Wolever,

uncle of R. W. Wolever, was a soldier in the Civil war from De Witt county, serving in the One Hundred and Seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Naturally Mr. Wolever has been interested in the Grand Army of the Republic, now belonging to R. H. Graham Post, No. 312, Department of Illinois, G. A. R. of which he is quartermaster. He has belonged to this order since 1880. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 118, of Atkinson, having joined it October 19, 1885, as a charter member. In December, 1886, he was elected to the office of worthy advisor in this camp, and in the following December was elected consul and served in that capacity until December, 1896, when he left the jurisdiction of that camp. Mr. Wolever has no sectarian religious associations. In political matters he agrees with the principles set forth in the platform of the republican party.

Mr. Wolever still retains one hundred and eighty-five acres of rich farming land in Cornwall township, located at the west end of Shabbona Grove. This is rented to a good tenant. Mr. Wolever has earned all he possesses through hard work, and strict economy. In all of his work he has been ably assisted by his loyal, devoted wife. They are comfortably located at No. 2029 Seventh avenue, Moline, Illinois, where their children and grandchildren love to gather, as well as their many friends, and enjoy the bountiful hospitality and friendly companionship of these two who, having done their full duty towards their family and community, can now spend the remainder of their days in peace and plenty.

---

#### CALVIN FRANKLIN WOLEVER.

The farmers of Henry county are as a class far beyond the average Illinois agriculturist. Owning magnificent land that yields large annual incomes, they are able to adopt scientific methods in their work and buy the latest improved machinery. Therefore their farms are models and their standing is unexcelled in the state. One thus representative of so much that is good in farm life is Calvin Franklin Wolever, of Atkinson township, who was born in Cornwall township, this county, June 16, 1874, a son of Robert William and Roena (Foster) Wolever, a full sketch of whom appears above.

The education of Mr. Wolever was secured in the common schools of Cornwall township, and he has always been connected with agricultural pursuits. He first purchased land in Rock Island county, where he farmed for two years, then sold and purchased a second farm in this county. Later he came to the village of Atkinson and, after resting for a year, bought land in Geneseo township. Spending four years upon it and improving it considerably, Mr. Wolever again removed to Atkinson township, which is now his home. He owns two hundred acres of fine land on section 1, where he is carrying on general farming and feeding stock extensively.

On September 8, 1898, he married Margaret Wolf, who was born in Bureau county, Illinois, November 14, 1879, a daughter of Barnhardt and Dorothy (Cravenhurst) Wolf. The mother, a native of Germany, came to this country and is now living in Yorktown township, this county. The father who was also

a German, died in 1893. He and his wife had three children, namely: Lavina, the wife of Edwin Seyler, of Hooppole, Illinois; Margaret, the wife of our subject; and Benjamin, the only son and eldest child, who takes care of the mother, they living together. Mr. Wolf had been married before and had other children. Mr. and Mrs. Wolever have one son, Robert Wolf, born November 1, 1900, in Cornwall township. He attends Frog Pond school in Atkinson township and is a very bright little fellow.

Mr. Wolever has worked since he was eight or nine years of age and since his marriage has been ably assisted by his wife. For some years he dealt in farm lands, buying, improving and then selling. Mr. and Mrs. Wolever have a beautiful automobile and enjoy the comforts their income warrants. They are constantly improving their home and when through will have one of the finest in Henry county's farming districts. Mr. Wolever is a broad-minded, liberal man, universally liked and a power in his community.

---

### JOHN WILLIAM STEARNS.

After a long life spent in the diligent cultivation of land, which has brought him a large return, a good income and the satisfaction of a life's work well done, John William Stearns has put aside the weightier of his cares and has taken up his residence in the southern part of the village of Orion. He was born on a farm at Center, Waterbury township, Washington county, Vermont, April 28, 1835, and was a son of John and Abigail Hall (Toby) Stearns. The former, who was a son of John Stearns, was a native of Massachusetts, but was only two years old when his parents removed to Vermont, where he spent his years in the pursuits of agriculture.

John William Stearns grew to manhood upon the farm in Vermont and in the course of years became associated with his father in its operation, continuing with him until the latter's death in 1855. The next year he also spent there with his mother, but then as he had attained his manhood he decided to start out for himself and found employment by the month among the other farmers of the locality. In October, 1860, he married and shortly afterward started upon his journey to Illinois. He located first in Rock Island county, where he had an uncle, and then, as he had one thousand dollars with him, he rented eighty acres of land, bought a team and farm implements, and entered upon his career as an agriculturist in Western township, Henry county. In 1864 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on the southeast quarter of section 12, that township. It was uncleared and unimproved but brought a price of eleven dollars and three quarters per acre. On that he built a house, sixteen by twenty-four feet, and added a lean-to. His next purchase, which was made about 1877, was eighty acres on the southwest quarter of section 7, Osco township, for which he paid four thousand dollars. Subsequently he bought another tract of eighty acres, this time in Western township, paying fifty-two hundred dollars, which he gave to his son, Arthur. His last investment in arable lands in this county embraced one hundred and seventy-seven acres on the northwest quarter of section 18,

Osco township, for which he paid sixty-five dollars an acre. As these extensive landholdings represent the success he has himself attained, he is fully entitled to the rest he now enjoys and to the justifiable pride which he in all modesty may feel in his achievements.

Mr. Stearns was twice married. In his native state in October, 1860, he wedded Miss Albina C. Stone, who was born in the township of Eden, Lamoille county, Vermont. One son, John Arthur, was born of this union. His birth occurred in Western township, where he grew to maturity and where he married Miss Susan Carlin. They have now two children, Bessie May and Willis Arthur, and live at Creston, Iowa. Mrs. Stearns died in 1866, and July 18, 1867, Mr. Stearns was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Glenn, who was born in the village of Martinsville, Clinton county, Ohio, February 9, 1840. When she was about fifteen her parents, Jacob and Julia (Daggett) Glenn, came to Henry county and settled in Colona township. There her father acquired a farm and spent the remainder of his days. She was third in a family of eight children and received a good common-school education. No children have been born of this marriage, but Mr. and Mrs. Stearns have reared three and given to them all the comforts and benefits of a home.

Since he cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont, Mr. Stearns has continuously voted the straight republican ticket, serving, as the choice of that party, in the capacities of school director and trustee and road commissioner. In the latter office he has acted for a period of eighteen years, and he still exercises his influence for the progress of educational advantages. Mr. Stearns has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church since she was thirteen years of age, when she was still in Ohio, and has ever been active in Sunday school work. At the time of its organization, both Mr. and Mrs. Stearns became members of the Farmers Social Club and frequently attend its meetings. In addition to his other duties and interests he is one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank.

---

### HARRY CRAIG STEARNS.

Harry Craig Stearns, who operates one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land on section 18, Osco township, belonging to John W. Stearns, was born in the city of Rock Island, Illinois, May 10, 1881, his parents being William O. and Henrietta (Glenn) Rugh. His mother died when he was but eighteen months old and he was taken by his mother's sister, Mrs. John William Stearns, under whose care he grew to maturity upon a farm on section 12, Western township. He received his education in the district schools of that township, while he assisted in the work that was carried on upon the home place from his earliest years. Until he reached the age of twenty-one he remained with his foster parents and then undertook the cultivation of the tract on which he is now residing. He has proved that the lessons learned in his youth can be put to good use, and though still a young man has given evidence of the qualities which are sure to place him among the more substantial and influential farmers of his township.

In Orion, October 21, 1908, Mr. Stearns was united in marriage to Miss Ellen T. Brodine, a daughter of Rev. P. J. and Louisa (Nordling) Brodine. Mrs. Stearns was born in Geneseo, February 6, 1885, and received a good education, having graduated from the Orion high school with the class of 1902 and on the completion of her own studies engaged in instructing others for a few years previous to her marriage to Mr. Stearns. She is a devout member of the Swedish Lutheran church and has ever been interested in its work. Since he has been of an age to exercise the franchise right of an American citizen, Mr. Stearns has given his support to the republican party, but aside from casting his ballot at election times he has taken no part in local affairs.

---

### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BAKER.

Inseparably interwoven with the history of Kewanee and Henry county has been the life record of Hon. Benjamin Franklin Baker for more than a quarter of a century. His constantly expanding operations and his intelligent application and utilization of opportunity have brought him to a prominent place in the business world, his labors constituting a source of general prosperity as well as of individual success. Through the consecutive steps of an orderly progression he has come to the vice presidency and treasuryship of the Kewanee Boiler Company and is officially connected with other important industrial, commercial and financial interests of the city.

A native of Aurora, Illinois, Mr. Baker was born July 26, 1864, his parents being Nelson G. and Lucy (Cross) Baker. His father, a retail jeweler, came to Illinois in 1850 and continued to reside in this state until his death, which occurred in 1875. The mother, surviving him for about twenty-one years, passed away in 1896. In 1870 they had removed with their family to Sheffield, Illinois, where Nelson Baker established a jewelry store, continuing as its proprietor until his demise.

Benjamin Franklin Baker was but six years of age at the time of the removal to Sheffield and in the public schools of that city he acquired his education, his youthful days being passed in mastering the tasks assigned him in the schoolroom and in enjoying the sports in which the youths of the period indulged. He came to Kewanee in September, 1883, at the age of nine years, and made his initial step in business circles here as bookkeeper in the First National Bank, being thus employed until February, 1889. He then entered the employ of the Haxtun Steam Heater Company and in November, 1892, became one of the organizers of the Kewanee Boiler Company. From the outset he has been connected with the enterprise and his business ability, constructive efforts and executive force have been salient features in the growth and development of the business. In 1902 he was elected vice president of the company and has since performed the duties of that office and of treasurer as well. A man of ready resource, he has not confined his attention and qualities to one undertaking, for in January, 1902, he with others organized the Federal Boiler & Supply Company and has been its secretary and treasurer since its organization. He is also

\*

one of the directors of the Kellogg-Mackay Company of Chicago and a director of the Union National Bank of Kewanee, so that he has voice in the management of various important business concerns in the city in which he has now made his home for twenty-six years.

On the 12th of June, 1901, Mr. Baker was united in marriage to Mary H. Chandler, of Chicago, a daughter of Charles Blood. They are prominent in the social circles of this city and Mr. Baker is a valued member of Kewanee Lodge, No. 159, A. F. & A. M., of which he is a past master. When a dispensation was granted to Kewanee Commandery, No. 71, K. T., he was named as eminent commander and served until the first annual election. He is also connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Kewanee Club. Positive in his republicanism, he has never been neglectful of the duties of citizenship but has sought the public welfare through his advocacy of principles which he deems most conducive to good government. He was first called to office in 1885 when elected village clerk of Kewanee for a two year's term, and in November, 1906, higher official honors were conferred upon him in his election to the state senate from the thirty-seventh senatorial district. Strong and honorable purpose has characterized him in his official as well as his business life and his position on any vital question is never an equivocal one.

---

#### PERRY E. WESTERLUND.

Perry E. Westerlund, the proprietor of the Cloverdale Farm, which embraces one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, Western township, was born on the same section January 24, 1876, and is a son of Peter and Christine (Hultman) Westerlund. The parents are now living in the village of Orion, resting after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits.

The youngest of a family of five children, Perry E. Westerlund was reared on the home place and attended the district school, where he secured his first introduction into the world of books and knowledge. For one year he attended Augustana College, where he pursued a business course, and then returned home to work for his father. He shortly afterward rented land of the latter and engaged in farming for himself, with what success may be judged from the extent of his fields and the general prosperous appearance of his land and the condition of his buildings. In 1899, the year in which he married, he erected his handsome residence, commodious, well constructed and equipped, which set the standard to which he tried to conform when he put up the other buildings on his place. A successful tiller of the soil, yet it is as a stockman that he has made his reputation, for his cattle and hogs are well known in the markets to which he sends them.

At Woodhull, Illinois, March 22, 1899, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Westerlund and Miss Selma Edmund, who was born and reared in Oxford township, where her birth occurred September 4, 1875. Her parents were Andrew J. and Johanna (Carlson) Edmund, the former of whom is a resident of Woodhull, but the mother has passed away, her death having occurred February 14,

1907. Mrs. Westerlund was the third in a family of six and has become the mother of three children, two sons and a daughter: Forest Edmund Emanuel, born October 19, 1901; Lyle Ruth Eleanor, born October 14, 1903; and Mahlon Howard Peter, born April 2, 1907. Mr. Westerlund is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Orion and gives his support to the candidates of the republican party. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, being a member of Camp No. 261, and takes part in all the meetings of the society and is deeply interested in the welfare of his brothers. Thrifty, industrious and energetic, he is now numbered as one of the leading farmers of Western township. Cloverdale Farm might in many ways serve as a model for others of like kind, while the stock which has made for it its name is some of the best in this locality.

---

### WILLIAM RILEY.

William Riley, proprietor of the Rock River Heights summer resort, who for many years was one of the prosperous farmers and skillful blacksmiths of Atkinson township, was born in Cornwall township, Henry county, October 4, 1854, a son of James and Sarah Ann (Dunbar) Riley. Both parents were born in Ohio but were brought to Illinois by their respective parents and were married in Bureau county, where they resided for a number of years. Later they came to Cornwall township, Henry county, where the father purchased a farm and made his home until his retirement to Atkinson, where his death occurred November 3, 1905. His widow survives, being now eighty-one years of age.

William Riley received a common school education and was reared to hard work on the farm. On February 27, 1875, he was married in the village of Atkinson to Miss Elizabeth Schwab, who was born in Switzerland, January 20, 1853, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Maglie) Schwab. She was four years old when brought by her parents to this country, the trip being made on a sailing vessel and consuming forty days. The Schwabs first settled near Kewanee, Illinois, and then went to Annawan, but finally located in Cornwall township, where Mr. Schwab bought two hundred and eighty acres of land, which he improved and made into a fine farm. He came with a brother-in-law and the two assisted one another until both were well established.

After Mr. Riley was married he rented land from his father for several years, then buying eighty acres to which he added an adjoining eighty acres, building upon it a comfortable residence. Having always loved the river, at one time he built a launch and operated it at Joslyn ferry. While traveling back and forth he had seen the possibilities of the land he now owns and operates as a summer resort so that in 1903 he bought it, putting up a log house and the same fall added ten cottages. This resort makes no pretensions toward fashionable life but is used by those desiring to get away from city life and enjoy the pleasures of nature. The camp is beautifully located and commands a magnificent view of the always lovely Rock river. Mr. Riley still owns his farming property having in all two hundred and forty acres as well as three residences and four lots in Atkinson, which is his winter home.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Riley, namely: Samuel James, who died in infancy; Catherine, who was born in Annawan and who attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute for two years; and Frank Leonard who died at the age of two years and eight months. The daughter has devoted a good deal of her attention to music and is now an accomplished pianist and vocalist and a most charming young lady.

Mr. Riley is a democrat and while not an office seeker has served as road commissioner in Cornwall township and as school director and alderman of Atkinson, discharging all of the various duties pertaining to these positions with marked fidelity. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and its auxiliary, the Royal Neighbors, and is a genial, whole-souled man who has made friends all his life and never loses one. His camp is a favorite one for fishermen and hunters and those who are once his guests seldom fail to avail themselves of the privilege of coming to the resort again.

---

#### ARTHUR J. DICKEY.

Arthur J. Dickey, a prominent agriculturist and stockman of Henry county, owns and operates a highly improved and valuable farm comprising three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 27, Cornwall township. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Cornwall township on the 23d of September, 1863. A sketch of his parents, David T. and Eliza E. (Peterson) Dickey, appears on another page of this work.

Arthur J. Dickey passed his boyhood days on the home farm in Cornwall township and after leaving the district school spent a year as a student in the Kewanee public school. Subsequently he pursued a commercial course in the Davenport Business College and after being graduated from that institution returned to the home farm, there remaining until he was married at the age of twenty-four years. In 1889 he went to Clay county, Nebraska, with his young wife and there gave his attention to the operation of a rented farm for three years. On the expiration of that period, in 1892, he returned to Henry county, Illinois, and in 1895 bought one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm from his father, paying seventy-two dollars an acre for the land. In 1901 he purchased another quarter section at one hundred dollars an acre and at the end of five years sold the property for one hundred and fifty dollars an acre. Two years later he again bought the place, paying one hundred and fifty dollars an acre for the land and five hundred dollars for the improvements that had been made upon it. His holdings therefore embrace three hundred and twenty acres on section 27, Cornwall township, and in recent years he has not only remodeled the buildings on the place but has added a number of others until today it is lacking in none of the improvements and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he also devotes considerable attention to the raising, feeding and shipping of stock and in both branches of his business has won a gratifying and well merited measure of success.

On the 4th of January, 1888, in Cornwall township, Mr. Dickey was united in marriage to Miss Hattie B. Hayden, a native of that township and a daughter of Gideon and Mary E. (Casteel) Hayden. The father still survives and now makes his home at Guide Rock, Nebraska, but the mother passed away when her daughter Hattie was only eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Dickey have two children. Leslie A., whose birth occurred during the sojourn of his parents in Nebraska, is now a young man of twenty. After completing the prescribed course of study in the district school he entered the high school at Kewanee and was graduated therefrom in 1909. Lela Grace, the daughter of our subject, is now a sophomore in the Kewanee high school.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Dickey has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. The cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion and he is at present serving as the capable incumbent in the office of school treasurer. He and his family belong to the Liberty Cornwall Congregational church, formerly called the Union Congregational church of Cornwall, of which both he and his wife are charter members. Mr. Dickey acts as trustee and also as superintendent of the Sunday school, having served in the latter capacity for about fifteen years. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America at Atkinson. His entire life has been guided by the most honorable principles and his self-reliance and unfaltering industry, combined with his integrity, constitute the salient features in his prosperity.

---

#### FRANK A. SNODGRASS.

Frank A. Snodgrass, the owner of a good tract of land on section 23, Edford township, is one of the progressive farmers, who, though handicapped in his youth by the poverty and lack of opportunities, has won success and has profited greatly by the rise in agricultural land that has indicated the prosperity of Henry county. He was born on a farm on Moline Bluffs, Hampton township, Rock Island county, August 24, 1870, and is the son of John and Sarah (Jamerson) Snodgrass. There were but two children in the family, his elder brother, Benjamin, being a farmer in Hanna township.

Frank A. Snodgrass was but three years of age when his father was killed by a stroke of lightning, and early had to seek his own fortunes in the world. When ten years of age he began to work by the day. His industry and ability having been proved through severe tests he was soon able to obtain employment by the month. The desire to get ahead in the world and the necessity of saving the greater part of his earnings having been inculcated in him, when he became twenty-one he found that he had one thousand dollars with which to start in business for himself. For seven years he rented from his uncle a farm in Hanna township, and then in 1895 bought a tract of ninety-five acres, paying fifty dollars an acre for it. In nine years it had more than doubled in value and he sold it for one hundred and five dollars an acre. He had also purchased one hundred

and sixty acres at forty dollars an acre, and this, in the space of six years, has almost doubled in price, for when he disposed of it he received seventy-two dollars an acre for it. He next bought some land east of Geneseo for which he paid one hundred and thirty dollars an acre, and three years later sold it for one hundred and fifty-one dollars. He thereupon moved into the city of Geneseo where he has made his home to the present, though he contemplates moving in the near future to the farm he has purchased in Edford township.

While he was renting of his uncle in Hanna township Mr. Snodgrass was married to Miss Clara Shafer, a native of that township and a daughter of William and Mary (Varns) Shafer. After Mrs. Snodgrass had completed the work of the district school she took a course in the Collegiate Institute in Geneseo. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Snodgrass: John Clinton, who was born in Hanna township, October 5, 1899, and Harry W., who was born in Hanna township, April 9, 1902. Both Mr. and Mrs. Snodgrass are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and will rear their children in that faith. Mr. Snodgrass has served the congregation of the local church for many years in the capacity of steward and as trustee. Politically he affiliates with the republican party and while he was a resident of Hanna township he acted as highway commissioner and for part of two terms was school trustee. His well developed business capacity and powers have enabled him to work his way steadily upward, and benefiting by the rise in land values, following his judicious investments, and by his intelligently directed energy he is now in the possession of a comfortable competency.

---

### JOHN E. MAGNUSON, D. D. S.

Among those who have figured prominently in professional circles in Orion is numbered Dr. John E. Magnuson, who for a number of years has practiced successfully as a dentist, gaining equal prominence and respect as a citizen. A native of Illinois, he was born in Lynn township, Henry county, on the sixth of October, 1860, a son of Charles J. and Johanna C. Magnuson. As the name indicates the family is of Swedish origin, both parents having been born across the water. They came to America in early life with their parents, both families arriving in this country in 1851. They immediately came to Illinois, settling first near Swedona, Mercer county, and later became residents of Henry county. In this country the parents were united in marriage and began their domestic life in Lynn township, near Ophiem, where the father carried on general farming. He also engaged extensively in stock feeding and became very successful, being an extensive landowner. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was organized for the purpose of insuring farm and town residence property, and he served as secretary of the company for several years. He was a member of the Evangelical church, of which he was secretary, and was a very public-spirited man, taking a deep and helpful interest in all community affairs. He passed away about twenty years ago, while his widow still survives and makes her home in Orion.

On his father's farm J. E. Magnuson spent the period of his boyhood and youth, and during the winter months attended the district schools in the acquirement of his literary education. Later he enjoyed the advantages of a course of study in Miller's Business College at Keokuk, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1882. The periods of vacation were devoted to assisting his father in the work of the home farm, and immediately after his graduation from business college he went to Colorado, where he was engaged in prospecting for a time. Later he returned home, carrying on farming for himself for some time, and then, in the fall of 1891, he entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in June, 1895. He has become a very skilled and successful dentist and has for many years enjoyed a very extensive patronage, which is steadily increasing in volume and importance. Through the years of his practice he has kept abreast with the onward march of the profession, has secured the latest improved instruments and equipments found in the modern dental office and followed methods of practice which receive the sanction of this progressive age. He has high ideals concerning his work and conforms to a high standard of professional ethics.

It was on the 28th of November, 1898, that Dr. Magnuson was united in marriage to Miss May Westerland, the only daughter of Peter Westerland, who represents a very prominent and well known family of Western township. Unto this union has been born one daughter, Marion Eleanor, who is a student in the schools at Orion. The family are all members of the Lutheran church and are active in the work of the church and Sunday school.

Fraternally Dr. Magnuson is identified with Sherman Lodge, No. 535, A. F. & A. M., and with Orion Lodge, No. 686, I. O. O. F., and also holds membership with the Modern Woodmen camp and with the Royal Neighbors of America, in all of which organizations he is well known and popular. His political views are in accord with the principles of the democracy and he has figured prominently in local public affairs. He has been a member of the democratic county central committee for a number of years and has frequently been sent as a delegate to various conventions, while he has also been a member of the Orion village board. When a young man on the home farm he was highway and drainage commissioner and likewise served as census enumerator for Lynn township in 1890. In addition to his practice he is also a stockholder in both banks at Orion and is a man of affluence, who occupies a high place in the community. No history of Orion would be complete without mention of Dr. Magnuson, for he stands foremost among her valued, respected and successful representatives.

---

### SAMUEL G. WIGANT.

The days pass busily for Samuel G. Wigant for a farm of one hundred and sixty acres claims his attention. It is situated on section 31, Cornwall township, and its attractive appearance indicates the careful supervision of its practical and progressive owner. A native of this township, he was born on section 19,

February 9, 1871, his parents being Hiram and Mary (Long) Wigant, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

As a boy Samuel G. Wigant enjoyed the educational opportunities afforded by the district school near his home, while he acquired practical training for his future work through the assistance he rendered his father in cultivating the home farm. When he attained his majority he hired out to his father for a year, after which he married and, with the natural desire to establish a home of his own, rented some land in Burns township. He was industrious and ambitious, and in 1895 had saved enough to enable him to purchase eighty acres in Cornwall township, where he now lives. He paid forty-seven dollars an acre for the tract and in 1900 was able to buy the eighty acres adjoining at the same price, although the land, if placed upon the market today, would bring one hundred and forty dollars per acre. Plowing, planting and harvesting largely occupy his time and with excellent results, but he has recently turned his attention to raising, feeding and shipping stock, and finds this enterprise also makes him a profitable return upon his investment of thought and labor, for he is painstaking as well as persevering, and being satisfied with only the best that can be produced and sparing no efforts to attain his ideal of excellence, finds a ready market for both his crops and his stock.

In Geneseo, April 3, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wigant and Miss Sarah J. Clark. She is a daughter of William and Martha (Shakespeare) Clark and was born upon the old Clark homestead in Munson township, this county, July 19, 1872. There are five children in Mr. and Mrs. Wigant's family, namely: Bessie, who was born April 13, 1894; Harry, January 10, 1897; Alice, October 13, 1898; Hazel, March 2, 1906; and Clara, March 23, 1909.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Wigant has been a stalwart champion of republicanism, having cast his first presidential ballot for William McKinley. He has never aspired to official distinction, however, although his devotion to the general welfare was manifest in the able manner in which he filled the position of road commissioner during the six years he held that office and in the progressive policies he advocated while he was school director. He is a young man of enterprise and ambition, and as he has based his life upon the sound principles of upright manhood he may look forward not only to successful future, but to one which will bring him the esteem of his associates, a guerdon that is even more enviable than financial prosperity.

---

#### ALPHONSE L. PHILLIPS.

Energy, industry and perseverance have enabled Alphonse L. Phillips, one of the respected citizens of Atkinson to overcome the many obstacles with which his life was beset and to attain to a substantial position among his fellowmen. He was born in Holland, March 25, 1868, a son of Leo and Sophia (Van Winkle) Phillips. The former was born in 1837 in Belgium and there followed the occupation of farming. At the age of thirty-two he came to America and, settling in New York state, farmed there for about sixteen years, when he returned to his

home on a visit of seven months. In 1884 he came to Atkinson, Illinois, and after living in the village for a year went to work for Mr. Boomer on a farm in Atkinson township. He remained there only a year, however, when he returned to the town which has since been his home. Of recent years he has lived with his son, for advancing age has made it impossible for him to do much work. On becoming a citizen of this republic he espoused the cause of the republican party and all his life has been a devout member of the Catholic church. His wife, who was born in Holland in 1835, died four years ago and was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Atkinson. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, four of whom are living: Alphonse L.; John, who lives in Canada; Mary, the wife of Leopold Bercroft, of Atkinson; and Louise, the wife of Peter Verkruijs, who lives in Atkinson township.

During his parents' residence in New York Alphonse L. Phillips attended the country schools of that state for eight winters, and assisted his father on the farm during the summer months. He accompanied his father and mother on their visit to the old country and, coming with them to Atkinson, worked at farming and odd jobs in this locality until twenty-one years of age. He then tended bar for a year, for the next two and a half years conducted a saloon, after which he went to Wisconsin, where he took up a claim. After living upon the land for three years he sold his rights to the homestead, but continued his residence in the Badger state for three years longer. On July 11, 1903, he opened a restaurant and lunchroom on State street, Atkinson, where he has built up a good business.

Mr. Phillips was first married February 9, 1890, to Miss Jennie Bercroft, a native of Atkinson. Her mother died when she was six years old, but her father is living in Atkinson, retired after an arduous life as a farmer. She was one of five children: Peter, a resident of Atkinson; Sophia, the wife of Peter Billiet; Leopold, of Atkinson; and Jennie, who became Mrs. Phillips. To our subject and his wife were born four children: John, November 14, 1892; Leo, June 26, 1896; Charles, April 14, 1899; and Mary, June 14, 1900. On the 4th of April, 1905, Mr. Phillips was married again, his second union being with Miss Emma Vandewaestyne. She is a native of Atkinson, born in 1882 and is a daughter of Peter and Minnie (Sterphien) Vandewaestyne. The father was born in 1842 in Belgium, and came to this country about thirty years ago. In Atkinson and vicinity he followed farming, which he had taken up in the old country. Atkinson township was the scene of his labors for about twenty-five years and then he removed to Geneseo, farming there for about ten years. He died September 1, 1904, and was buried in Atkinson. He was a republican in politics. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Matilda DeCrane, who bore him three children: Charles, of Atkinson, Illinois; Mary, of Chicago; and Julia, the wife of August Cable, of Atkinson. The wife and mother died in 1880 and was buried in Atkinson. Mr. Vandewaestyne subsequently married the mother of Mrs. Phillips. She was born in Belgium in 1845, and at the time of her marriage was the widow of Sterphien Vandewaestyne, who died in 1880. She had four children by her first husband: Gus, who lives in South Dakota; Daisy, of Atkinson; Edward, of Geneseo; and Ida, the wife of Theodore Desonville, of South Dakota. She had five children by her second husband: Emma, the wife of A. D. Phillips; Christian, the wife of Mell De Frieze, of Geneseo; Elizabeth, the wife of Frank

Drew, of Atkinson; Stephina, at home in Atkinson; and Emlia, also at home. There has been but one child, Alfred, born of Mr. Phillips' second marriage, his birth occurring January 26, 1906.

Mr. Phillips is a member of the Catholic church and has brought his children up in that faith, sending those old enough to the Catholic school in Atkinson. Though he began life in very moderate circumstances and in his early life met with a great loss in the death of his wife, who left him with four small children to care for, he has plodded along manfully, and with the help of his devoted wife has secured a substantial position for himself. His business has proved more successful than he had hoped and he has gained the respect and esteem of the entire community. Mrs. Phillips belongs to the Mystic Lodge, while her husband is a member of the Domestic Workers, is a republican, and carries insurance in the Capital Life Association of Springfield.

---

### JOHN BOLLEN.

John Bollen, who to within the last fifteen years was one of the active farmers of Loraine township, and is now living retired in a very pretty home in Geneseo, was born in Ohio July 13, 1835, and is the son of John and Sarah (Hooks) Bollen, both natives of the 'Buckeye state. The father was born July 22, 1805, and came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1836, securing land in Loraine township. At the time of his advent here wild game of all kinds, but especially deer, abounded, and the Indians were frequent visitors at the white men's houses. He lived to see these conditions become no more than a memory, for when he died, January 2, 1888, Henry county was well advanced toward the condition it now enjoys. He participated in this progress, for he was a man of public spirit who filled in turn all the offices of his township. When the republican party was organized he joined its ranks and was fired by the discussions that preceded the Civil war. He was twice married. His first wife, Miss Sarah Hooks in her maidenhood, was born November 16, 1813, and died November 3, 1843, having borne four children: Mary, who married James Armstrong; John, the subject of this sketch; William, who lives in Bayard, Iowa; and Fletcher, who died in February, 1908. Mr. Bollen's second wife was Mrs. Parmelia Loomis, by whom he also had four children, all living: George, of Orchard, Nebraska; Heman and Lucretia, twins, the former a resident of Prophetstown, Illinois, and the latter the wife of David Parker, of Seattle, Washington; and Thomas, who lives in Nebraska. Mrs. Parmelia Bollen died about ten years ago in Prophetstown, Illinois.

John Bollen received his education in the common schools of Henry county. He remained with his father on the farm until he was seventeen, when he started in life for himself. For several years he worked at anything that presented itself and then rented land in Loraine township, on which he lived until 1862, when he purchased two hundred and ninety acres in Phenix and Loraine townships. This he still owns, although it presents an appearance much different from the unimproved tracts he purchased almost fifty years ago. He set to work immediately

to make the farm a profitable investment, following a general agriculture and stock raising. In 1894 he decided to abandon the more arduous of his duties and retired to the comfortable house he had purchased. It is situated on North Aldrich street, Geneseo.

On the 4th of July, 1859, Mr. Bollen married Miss Caroline Heller, who was born in Loraine township and was a daughter of David and Catherine Heller. She died in August, 1872, survived by three of her four children. William, the eldest, born April 13, 1861, married Miss Minnie Phelps. After her death he married Miss Anne Sieben. He lives in Geneseo and has three children—Donald, Ralph and Irene. Sarah Catherine, born December 2, 1864, became the wife of Adam F. Hines, of Phoenix township. They have three children: Floyd B., Ethel Gertrude and Lois Irene. John W., born January 13, 1868, married Miss Alice Rapp and lives in Osco township. They have two children: Melba Irene and Christine Dorothy.

On the 10th of September, 1873, Mr. Bollen was united in marriage to Miss Mandana Adams. She was born in Schuyler county, Illinois, September 2, 1849, and is a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Derling) Adams, the former a native of Massachusetts, the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Adams came to Illinois in the early '50s, settling in Henry county, where he lived a few years, until his death, which occurred when Mrs. Bollen was a very young girl, leaving his widow to rear their family of nine children. They were Lucy, the wife of John Logan, both deceased; Emily, deceased, who was the wife of Benson McHenry, and lives in Henry county; Norman, who married Miss Rachel Henniger and lives in Kansas; Stewart, who married Miss Louise Bunn and lives in Leverage, Minnesota; Achsah, the wife of Alvin Lyon, both deceased; Mandana, who is Mrs. Bollen; Ellen R., deceased, who was the wife of Charles Holmes and lived in Nebraska; Daniel, who married Miss Fannie Holmes and lives in Belle Plaine, Iowa; and Wilmina, the wife of E. D. Thomas, of Geneseo. Mrs. Adams reared this large family with care and ability and was a devout member of the Methodist church as was her husband.

Mr. Bollen is a republican in his political views and has held all the township offices. He belongs to the Methodist church as does his wife, who is a very active woman and has been of great assistance to her husband. Mr. Bollen has managed his own affairs since he was seventeen years of age, and the substantial position he has now attained attests to what excellent principles guided him. He is surrounded by the comforts that contribute to an enjoyable old age and has the respect of his fellow citizens and all who know him.

---

#### JOHN W. BOLLEN.

John W. Bollen, whose home is on section 13, Osco township, where he owns three hundred and forty acres of land, was born in Loraine township, January 13, 1868, and is a son of John and Caroline (Heller) Bollen. Reared upon the farm on which his birth occurred, he acquired a good education in the country schools of the district, supplemented by two terms at the Northwestern Normal.

Upon attaining his majority he embarked in farming, purchasing first a tract of one hundred and forty acres in Phenix township. He paid about sixty-five dollars an acre, but after he had lived there some years, having made a number of important improvements, he was able to dispose of it for ninety dollars an acre. He engaged in the ice business, for a few years, and in 1904 bought the land on which he now lives. This, too, is under a high state of cultivation and is very valuable.

In Phenix township, February 10, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of John W. Bollen and Miss Alice Rapp. She was born in that township and is a daughter of Aaron and Christina (Hines) Rapp, who were able to give her a good education. Of this union have been born two children: Melba, born in Phenix township; and Dorothy, who was born in Geneseo.

Mr. Bollen is a republican in his political views and when exercising his right to vote invariably casts his ballot for the candidates of that party. He has never sought office, feeling that the cares of his own vocation demanded all of his time. To this unswerving devotion to the work which he has chosen can be traced the bountiful harvest which are his at the end of each season. He has spared no exertion to increase the production of his fields and has found himself well repaid. He is still in the prime of life and will doubtless see many more years of profit and usefulness.

---

### THEODORE MILAR.

One of the esteemed men of Atkinson, Illinois, who has been intrusted by the citizens with many responsible offices is Theodore Milar. He was born in 1850 in New Philadelphia, Ohio, and is a son of Robert and Rebecca (Knisely) Milar. The mother was born in the same place on the 25th of September, 1831, but the father, was of Maryland nativity, the day of his birth having been July 24, 1824. He was a carpenter by trade and came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1856. He built and lived in the first house erected in the vicinity of Atkinson. In the half century during which that city was his home, he became very prominent in its affairs, was a republican in his political affiliations and served as justice of the peace for eighteen or twenty years. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons and for several years was master of the lodge at Atkinson. He was a consistent member of the Methodist church and died in that faith August 2, 1904. His wife had preceded him to his last resting place by about twelve years, for her death occurred November 7, 1892. They were the parents of four children, three of whom have died and are buried with them in Oakwood cemetery, Geneseo. The family consisted of Theodore; LeRoy, born in Ohio, October 9, 1852, died November 28, 1898; Clara, who was the wife of Robert W. Bailey, was born January 5, 1854, and died August 10, 1908; and Jacob Knisely, born March 25, 1857, died September 11, 1883.

Theodore Milar, the oldest of this family and the only one now living, received his education in the schools of Atkinson, but the family being in limited circumstances, he was compelled to start life for himself at an age much younger

than that of the average boy of today. He worked for several farmers for a short time and then engaged in railroading on the Rock Island system, his run including points all the way between Chicago and Omaha; Moberly, Missouri, and St. Louis. This remained his occupation for fifteen years, and then, in 1878, he removed to Atkinson, where since 1881 he has been carrying on an extensive carpentering and contracting business. His son has greatly aided him in this work, and together they have built some of the more important of the city's residences, among which may be mentioned those of John Nowers, J. S. Nowers, Mr. McCauley, F. R. Brooks, Paul D. Ransom, Robert Black, and John J. Bloom, besides a large number of homes in the country. Further building operations of the father and son have included the remodeling of the Congregational church, a brick store building and Mr. Bessant's agricultural store. In 1891 he put up his own pleasant residence on State street.

On the 15th of June, 1870, Mr. Milar was married to Miss Ruth Eliza Storm, who was born August 10, 1852, and is a daughter of John and Eliza (Kibby) Storm. The father, whose birth occurred in New York, March 18, 1820, was a blacksmith in his early life and came to Illinois in the '40s, settling in Princeton, Bureau county. In 1880 he removed to Nevada, Story county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming. He was a republican in politics and a man who took an active interest in the public affairs of the community in which he lived, for he held several offices in Bureau county during the time of his residence there, and after he went to Iowa became one of the aldermen of the city of Nevada. He was a devoted adherent of Masonry, having passed through all but one of the degrees. His death occurred November 28, 1907, in Arkansas City, Kansas, where he was visiting. He was married June 10, 1851, to Eliza Kirby, who passed away in the twentieth year of her age, July 10, 1853, leaving one daughter. Mr. Storm, however, was three times married and had by his first wife four children, by his second one, and by his third seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Milar have one son, Wallace Lee, who was born in Stuart, Iowa, August 10, 1873. He attended the schools of Atkinson, and then supplemented their training by a collegiate course in Geneseo. On returning to Atkinson he engaged with his father in carpentering and to him in almost equal measure as to the older man belongs the credit for the buildings they have erected. In 1899 he married Miss Charlotte Griffin and took up his residence in the southeast part of town.

Politically Mr. Milar is a republican and has evinced an active interest in the welfare of the citizens of Atkinson, having held many offices at their disposal. He served for one term as justice of the peace, has been town clerk for the past twenty years, and has held the funds of the school board for ten years. He has passed through seven degrees of Masonry and is a charter member of the local camp of Woodmen, in which he has held the office of consul for three years. Mrs. Milar is a member of the Christian Science church and of the Eastern Star. They began life in moderate circumstances but by frugality and energy have become very well situated as regards comforts and own a half interest in an eighty acre farm. They are a couple of great intelligence, whose outlook on life is broad and liberal, and their lives have been marked by many deeds of kindness to their friends and neighbors. The several offices of trust which Mr. Milar has held in

his township, and the length of the periods through which he has administered their duties fully attest the respect and esteem in which he is held in his community. He is a man, too, whose amiable disposition and strong character have attracted to him hundreds of friends.

---

### JOSEPH N. GAMBLE.

Nothing can be more gratifying to any man, however young or old, than the knowledge that his abilities and capacities are appreciated by his employers and that in recognition of them he is ever eligible to promotion when opportunity is afforded. A continuous advancement has been the career of Joseph N. Gamble since he became connected with the rolling mill of Kewanee. He was born in this city, March 2, 1863, a son of J. R. and Maria P. (Woolley) Gamble, and is a descendant of English ancestors on the paternal side. His mother is a great granddaughter of Peter Probasco, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who belonged to an old Holland Dutch family. His paternal grandfather, George N. Gamble, was reared in England, where he married Miss Susanna G. Guthridge. He first came to America in 1831, but after spending nine months in the east returned to his old home, only to come to America after less than a year. He located then permanently in Philadelphia, which remained his home until his death.

In that city J. R. Gamble, the father of our subject, was reared and educated, starting upon his career as a boy in the ship-chandler's or naval supply store. After two years he began learning the carpenter's trade and, having gained proficiency in it, came to Henry county, Illinois, in 1855. He settled in Kewanee, but the village at that time contained only about one thousand inhabitants. In its growth and progress Mr. Gamble has taken an active part, for as contractor and carpenter he has erected many of the buildings here and in the surrounding territory, including the factory belonging to Pierce & Haxton. While still living in Philadelphia, October 30, 1855, Mr. Gamble married Miss Maria P. Woolley, and they have become the parents of the following children: Florence M., who is the wife of Charles Payne, of Kewanee; Kate B., who is the widow of A. O. Warner and has one child, Louise; George H., who is the pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist church of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and, having married Marguerite Hawthorne, is the father of four sons, George, William, Ross and Paul. Joseph N., the subject of this sketch; Susanna, who is the wife of Rev. Ellis M. Jones, a Baptist minister of Carbondale, Illinois, and the mother of three daughters and one son Miriam, Esther, Ellis, Jr., and Ruth; Fred B., of Kewanee, who married Eleanor Cramb and is the father of three children, Frederick, Florence and Gertrude and Ross W., who married Velma Cramb and has three children, John, Elizabeth and Margaret; and Louise M., who died in 1908. Mr. Gamble is a member of the Baptist church and a republican in his political affiliations.

Upon completing the course of study prescribed by the public schools of Kewanee Joseph N. Gamble entered upon his business career. He engaged first

with Lyman, Lay & Lyman in the minor capacity of cash boy. Later as he evinced the strong qualities of devotion to duty and alertness he was advanced to a clerkship. While in that position, having given perfect satisfaction to the firm for six years, he joined H. R. Clears as a partner in a book store. Six years later he sold his interest to Mr. Clears and on the 1st of August, 1892, entered the employ of the rolling mill, and in about ten years he advanced from a subordinate position to that of a superintendent, which he holds at present. For the first five months he was a clerk and then he was promoted to the position of night foreman of the rolling and scrap mill. Two years later he was made cost clerk for all of the mill departments, from which office, after having proved his ability and efficiency during a period of four years, he was made chief cost clerk of the whole plant. In that capacity he served until 1902, when he was appointed superintendent of all of the foundry departments. This is the position he holds at the present. Trying as it sometimes is, he has proved that he has the power to control men as well as to obtain from them the best work of which they are capable.

On the 10th of June, 1886, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Gamble and Miss Fannie Tunnickliffe, of Kewanee. Five children have been born to them, Ruth L., Marjorie A., Donald T., Katharine and Joseph George. The oldest married Lawrence McFall, of Kewanee, a clerk in the employ of the National Tube Company, and the youngest died at the age of six. Mr. Gamble is a member of the First Baptist church, in whose support he is most liberal. He is also a trustee and deacon of the church and prominent in all its work. He belongs to the Young Men's Christian Association an organization prominent in promoting the moral and social welfare of the city and its financial prosperity.

---

#### ABRAM ASA FUNK.

Abram Asa Funk, an enterprising, up-to-date and progressive agriculturist of Henry county, devotes his energies to the cultivation of his well improved farm of eighty acres on section 31, Cornwall township, and likewise follows surveying to some extent. He was born on section 31, Cornwall township, on the 23d of November, 1874, his parents being George and Rebecca (Funk) Funk, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this volume.

Mr. Funk was reared on the home farm and attended the district school until about seventeen years of age, when he entered the Geneseo Collegiate Institute at Geneseo, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1894. Returning to the home farm, he was actively engaged in its operation in association with his father until 1900, when he purchased property of his own. About 1897 he took up a study of civil engineering through the medium of the International School of Correspondence of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and completed the prescribed course in 1905, having mastered the profession while carrying on his agricultural interests. As before stated, he came into possession of a farm of his own in 1900, having accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to purchase eighty acres of land in Cornwall township at fifty dollars an acre. There were

no buildings on the property but he has since erected a nice residence as well as all necessary barns and outbuildings, and everything about the place indicates in its neat and thrifty appearance the supervision of a practical and progressive owner. In addition to the work of farming he is also engaged in surveying to some extent, having gained a good knowledge of that profession through his correspondence course. In 1907 he took up the work prescribed in a five years' course of study by the American School of Correspondence, which was established by the Armour Institute of Technology. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and has gained an enviable reputation as a wide-awake, alert and enterprising agriculturist as well as substantial citizen of the community.

On the 7th of January, 1902, in Munson township, Mr. Funk was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Belle Hunter, a daughter of Henderson and Margaret (Ferguson) Hunter, who are natives of Ohio and Henry county, Illinois, respectively. Henderson Hunter came to this county with his parents, was here married and now resides with his wife at Cambridge. Mrs. Funk supplemented her preliminary education by two years' attendance at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and also took a special course in music. Both she and her husband have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which their entire lives have been spent and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

---

#### WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.

William C. Hamilton, of Western township, was born July 4, 1849, in Cable township, Mercer county, Illinois. Mr. Hamilton is of Irish extraction, his parents, William and Rosanna Hamilton having been born in County Antrim, Ireland. They came to this country when young people and were married in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The father was a boiler maker and for some years worked at his trade in Philadelphia and Paterson, New Jersey. In 1847 he decided to come west and settling in Mercer county, Illinois, he engaged in farming until 1850. Becoming dissatisfied with this occupation he took his family back to Philadelphia, the subject of this review being at that time an infant, and resuming his trade, remained in the Quaker City for about three years. In 1853 the Hamilton family again turned their faces westward and began the establishment of a permanent home in Western township, Henry county, Illinois. The father bought a farm of eighty acres a few miles west of Orion and from time to time added to it until it amounted to one hundred and thirty acres, and upon this homestead he engaged actively in agriculture until the time of his death, July 9, 1891. Mrs. Hamilton passed away on the 20th of December of the same year and their graves are to be found in Western township cemetery. Mr. Hamilton, the father, throughout his life gave his support to the democratic party, and he and his wife were active members of the Presbyterian church. They were noted in the community for their church loyalty, for their liberal charity, and for their willingness to take upon their own shoulders the alleviation of any suffering and the remedying of any injustice which might come under their notice. Their family

consisted of William C. Hamilton, the subject of the sketch, and David A. Hamilton.

William C. Hamilton passed his boyhood days upon his father's farm and received his education in the district schools of Western township. For about eight years he and his brother were engaged in buying and shipping stock, carrying on this business upon an extensive scale. In 1867 and 1868 he was among those who assisted in the government work at Rock Island, Illinois, and later he went to Chicago, where he engaged in the feed business in which he continued for four years, building up a large and profitable trade, and also bought and sold horses to some extent. He returned to Orion for awhile and engaged in various pursuits and again went to Chicago remaining for two years. Mr. Hamilton is now engaged in the livery business in Orion and his knowledge of horses is unsurpassed. He is also a fine judge of stock, his opinion in this line being considered a valuable acquisition and his long experience as a buyer and shipper has given him a wide acquaintance wherein he maintains a reputation for fair dealing and honesty.

Mr. Hamilton gives his vote to the men chosen by the democratic party to fulfill its principles, but although he takes a lively and intelligent interest in public affairs, he has never been an office seeker. Mr. Hamilton's uncle, Captain George C. Hill, husband of Jane (Hamilton) Hill was one of the most distinguished citizens whose names are written in the annals of Orion. He fought under Wellington at Waterloo, and at the close of the war with France, left the British army and came to America. After engaging in business in Philadelphia for some time he came to Orion, where he spent the rest of his life, laying aside his role of army officer to become a common citizen of high standing. On July 4, 1859, Captain Hill assisted in raising the first American flag ever wafted on the breezes of Orion, and on this inspiring occasion made an address of such thrilling patriotism that it is still vividly remembered by the older generation. Both he and his wife were people of high religious character who rejoiced in the possession of general respect. They were originally Presbyterians, but upon coming to Orion joined the Methodist church in which they took an active part. Captain Hill died March 6, 1860, his widow surviving him for several years. His death deprived Orion of one of the most prominent Masons in the community.

---

#### FRANK HERBERT EDWARDS.

Among the many agriculturists of Western township, who have now relinquished the burdensome cares of farm life, is Frank Herbert Edwards, whose home is on South State street, Geneseo. Although he has resigned the heavier responsibilities of his vocation he still retains an interest in farming, for he still owns five hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township. He was born in Moline, Illinois, on the 2d of August, 1857, and has grown up upon the property secured by his paternal grandfather, William Edwards, almost three-quarters of a century ago. The latter was born and reared in the town of Brattleboro, Vermont, where he was united in marriage to Miss Hulda Bangor. In 1835 the

couple made the journey across the mountains and prairies to Greene county, Illinois, where Mr. Edwards spent the winter teaching school. In the spring of the next year, he bought a tract of land where the city of Moline now stands and upon it passed the remaining years of his life. His son, Herbert R. Edwards, grew up in that locality and in the course of years married Miss Harriet Gordon. Of their union were born seven children: Carrie M., who married F. M. Stewart and died in Colorado, leaving five children; Frank Herbert, the subject of this sketch; Clarence, who has married and is a civil engineer in Kearney, Nebraska; Flora B., who is the wife of William Tully and lives in Grand Island, Nebraska; Grace F., who became the wife of Clarence Ward, of Atkinson township, this county; Nellie, who married Abel D. Ward; and Charles. About 1866, the father removed to Western township, where he acquired three hundred and twenty acres of land and where his death occurred November 21, 1874. His wife is still living in Geneseo at about the age of seventy-six and has witnessed the success which has come to her children.

Frank Herbert Edwards spent his boyhood under the parental roof and attended the district schools of his locality. After the death of his father he assisted his mother in the operation of the home farm, for as the oldest son the heavier burdens naturally fell upon his shoulders. He inherited a small tract of land, when he attained his majority, but he added to it continuously as the years passed, buying several of the shares in the homestead belonging to his brothers and sisters, until the farm in his possession today represents the greater part of a section. In 1908 he built a new home of cement blocks, which is as fine a structure of its kind as may be found in Western township. These material evidences of his success afford no insight into the reputation he has attained among his fellow townsmen but as an able farmer and a man of sound principles, he is well entitled to the respect they accord him.

On the 23d of January, 1883, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Smith, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, but at that time a resident of Livingston county, Illinois, whither her parents had moved. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Edwards: Ella B., who is the wife of William Tennant, Jr.; H. Royce, who was born October 29, 1887; Ethel H., who graduated from the Geneseo high school with the class of 1909; and Elwood Glenn, who is now in the public school. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Congregational church of Geneseo, and has always given his support in political matters to the republican party. He has, however, neither been active in its ranks nor in the public life of his locality.

---

#### HUGH LIVINGSTON GRIER.

Hugh Livingston Grier, who devotes his energies to the pursuits of farming and stock raising, is the owner of a valuable and productive tract of land comprising one hundred and twenty acres on sections 31 and 32, Cornwall township. His birth occurred on this farm on the 6th of May, 1864, his parents being William

and Isabelle (Livingston) Grier. The father, who was a native of County Monaghan, Ireland, came to the United States alone when about fourteen years of age and worked for a time in the rolling mills at Harbour Creek, Pennsylvania. Subsequently he was employed by a gardener at Philadelphia, which city remained his home until he came to this county. There he wedded Miss Isabelle Livingston, who was likewise a native of the Emerald isle and came to America when about sixteen years of age, locating in Philadelphia. They remained in that city for a few years following their marriage and two children were born unto them there, one of whom passed away ere they came to Henry county. Following his arrival here Mr. Grier lived for a time with a brother-in-law, Hugh Armstrong, residing in a sod house in Cornwall township. He was actively engaged in the operation of rented land for about two years and then purchased a tract of eighty acres, which is now included in the home farm of our subject, and at various times bought land until he owned four hundred and eighty acres. Agricultural interests claimed his attention throughout the remainder of his life and he became widely recognized as one of the successful and respected citizens of the community. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith and held membership in the Calvary church of Cornwall township. His political allegiance was given to the republican party but he had no desire for the honors and emoluments of office. He passed away in 1900, having for a number of years survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in 1888 when fifty-four years of age. Their children were nine in number, the record of whom is as follows: John died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. William is now a resident of Wethersfield, Illinois. George passed away when twenty-eight years of age. James H. is married and makes his home at Neponset, Illinois. Hugh Livingston, of this review, is the next in order of birth. Margaret first gave her hand in marriage to Schuyler Parker, by whom she had two children, and following his death she wedded Dr. Franklin S. Adams, with whom she resides at Waterville, Kansas. John R. and Benjamin F. Grier both make their home in Cambridge township. Edward lives in Cornwall township.

Hugh Livingston Grier was reared on the home farm and obtained a good practical education in the common schools. He gave his father the benefit of his assistance in the work of the fields and after he had attained his majority received wages for his services. He thus worked for his father for a year and then rented a part of the home place for two years, on the expiration of which period he rented land belonging to his brother-in-law for a similar period. In December, 1888, he went to St. Paul, Nebraska, and purchased a livery barn but subsequently returned to this county. Following his marriage in June, 1889, he again made his way to Nebraska and there continued to reside until the following October, when he disposed of his interests in that state and returned to Illinois. He gave his attention to the operation of rented land in Cornwall township until 1900, when he came into possession of his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres on sections 31 and 32, in the further cultivation and improvement of which he has since been actively engaged. The land cost him seventy dollars an acre. In addition to the cultivation of cereals he also devotes considerable attention to the raising, feeding and shipping of stock and has won a creditable and well merited degree of prosperity in his undertakings along these lines.

On the 11th of June, 1889, in Cornwall township, Mr. Grier was united in marriage to Miss Edith Emma Dugdale, who was born in that township on the 16th of July, 1866, her parents being George and Elizabeth (Hill) Dugdale. The father, whose birth occurred near Essex, England, crossed the Atlantic to the United States when twenty-three years of age and took up his abode in Henry county, Illinois. Here he met and married Miss Elizabeth Hill, a native of Virginia, who came to this county with her parents when a maiden of nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Dugdale have now attained the ages of eighty and sixty-four years respectively and reside in Geneseo. George Dugdale is a stanch democrat in his political views, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which his wife is also identified. They had a family of four children, as follows: Mrs. Grier; Mina E., who is the wife of Joseph Souers and lives in Geneseo; Bertha May, who is the wife of Charles W. Nelson, of Munson township; and Charles Swartz, who died at the age of six years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Grier have been born two children. Alta Isabelle, whose birth occurred in Cornwall township, March 13, 1890, completed the grammar school course in June, 1906, and is now a junior in the Geneseo high school. Zella Elizabeth, who was born in Cornwall township on the 16th of April, 1895, was graduated from the grammar school in 1909 and is now a pupil in the Geneseo high school.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Grier has supported the men and measures of the republican party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. For two years he has served in the office of collector. He has resided in this county throughout practically his entire life and is therefore largely familiar with its upbuildings and substantial development, especially along agricultural lines, with which he has been connected since early manhood.

---

### ROSS WESLEY BLACK.

Ross Wesley Black, the mail carrier on route No. 2, of Atkinson, Illinois, who is distinguished by a gentlemanly bearing, kindness and a genial disposition in his relations with his patrons, was born in Atkinson, November 16, 1882, and is the eldest son of Robert W. and Julia Curtain (Foy) Black. The father, who was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, April 17, 1856, was the fourth in a family of thirteen children, only six of whom are now living. They were Henry, who died in childhood; Elizabeth, the wife of David Sisler, who lives in Pennsylvania; George E., a resident of Altoona; Robert W., the father of our subject; Ruth, who died at the age of nineteen years; Henrietta, the wife of Charles Daugherty, of Altoona, Pennsylvania; Minnie, the wife of William Bowser of Pennsylvania; Susan, the wife of Edward Smeigh, also of Pennsylvania; and five others who died young.

In his youth Robert W. Black learned the trade of a painter and decorator and followed it for five years in the Pennsylvania car shops and in the car shops at Altoona for two or three years, when he lost his health. He then engaged in

farming for two years, after which he returned to his trade. In 1876 he came to Atkinson, Illinois, and has since made this town his home. His wife, Mrs. Julia C. Black, was born September 16, 1860, and was a daughter of Gideon and Mary Ann (Bryan) Foy. Both parents were natives of Pennsylvania and are buried side by side in Adams county, Iowa, their deaths having occurred in that state, the mother's in Prescott in 1895, the father's five years later. The latter was a farmer all his life and was the father of ten children, six boys and four girls, all but the youngest born in Pennsylvania. They were John W., of Galesburg, Illinois, a member of the legislature of this state in 1877, when he espoused the cause of the Greenback party; Stephen, of Prescott, Iowa; Sarah, the wife of G. A. Aboners, of Creston, Iowa; James W., of Prescott, Iowa; Tonar, who died in January, 1894, in Prescott, Iowa, though a resident of Atkinson, Illinois; Samuel A., of Prescott, Iowa; Mary Elizabeth, who was the wife of Robert Parker, of Atkinson, and died in November, 1877, being buried in Fair View cemetery; Julia Curtain, the wife of Robert Black of this review; Laura M., the wife of James Campbell, of Prescott, Iowa; and Warren B., born in Illinois, living now in Kansas. In her girlhood Mrs. Black attended the school in which her two sons and her daughter-in-law at one time taught, for she was reared in this locality. By her marriage to Mr. Black she became the mother of six children: Ross W.; George Edward, who was born in Atkinson in 1887 and is in business with his father; Ruth Anna, a graduate of the Atkinson high school and now a teacher in the country schools of the township; Robert Julian, also a graduate of the high school and like his sister a teacher in the country schools; Susan May, now a pupil in the high school; and Julia Foy, attending school. The parents live in what is known as the Riley addition to Atkinson, where in 1898 Mr. Black erected a very pretty home. He is a man who was compelled to rely upon himself for his success in the world and by his own efforts has acquired a comfortable living. His educational advantages having been somewhat limited he has spared no pains to give his children the best schooling within his power. Politically he is in sympathy with the prohibitionist party and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen. Mrs. Black is a Royal Neighbor and both husband and wife belong to the Congregational church.

Ross W. Black received his education in the schools of Atkinson and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1899. Immediately upon the expiration of his own school days he engaged in teaching and during the two years he was connected with the schools of Henry county achieved success as a popular and progressive instructor, who possessed the faculty of endearing himself to his pupils. Subsequent to his experience as a teacher he took a course of one year at Brown's Business College at Davenport, Iowa, and then in 1905 began carrying the mail from Atkinson to the residents on route 2. Here again the amiable qualities of his personality came to the front and he has made a large number of friends, who are attracted by the heartiness of his greeting and courtesy of his bearing.

On the 30th of May, 1908, Mr. Black married Miss Emma Louisa Wahlert. She was born in Cornwall, Atkinson township, in 1880, and is a daughter of William and Johanna (Lehse) Wahlert. The parents were born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, between 1840 and 1850 and came to America in 1874, being

three weeks in crossing the ocean. They settled first in Cornwall township, where the father engaged in farming, and then came to Atkinson, where he worked as a laborer and where he died about twenty-five years ago. The mother is still living in Atkinson at the age of sixty years. Of the children that were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wahlert, six are now living: Ernest, a mechanical engineer of Britt, Iowa; Lena, the wife of Robert Graham, of Atkinson, Illinois; Amelia, the widow of Machen Winters, who lives in Iowa with her four sons; William Claus, also mechanical engineer of Britt; Emma Louisa, now Mrs. Ross W. Black; and James, who is a soldier in the Philippines. Mrs. Black attended the graded schools of Atkinson until she was twelve and then continued her education in the high school of Geneseo, from which she was graduated in 1899. She also engaged in teaching in the country schools of Henry county for three years and then took a two years' course in the Baptist Hospital and Training School, from which in 1904 she received her diploma as a trained nurse. For almost five years she practiced her profession in Annawan, Atkinson and Geneseo, and by her physicians was considered a very capable woman and one of the best nurses in this locality. A son, Henry Thomas, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Black, September 14, 1909.

Mr. and Mrs. Black are members of the Congregational church and the Royal Neighbors. They both possess to an unusual degree the capacity for making strong friendships and hold an enviable place in the hearts of the people of Atkinson. Politically Mr. Black is connected with the prohibition party,

---

### HENRY W. OLE.

Henry W. Ole, who since 1908 has lived retired in Geneseo, was formerly actively identified with the agricultural interests of Henry county and is still the owner of a fine farm of eighty acres on section 5, Cornwall township. His birth occurred near Wells, Somersetshire, England, on the 3d of September, 1844, his parents being William and Jane (Poole) Ole. He received a fair education in the common schools but began providing for his own support at a very early age, working by the day or month as he found employment. When a young man of twenty-one he was married and soon afterward embarked on a steamer bound for American shores, arriving in the United States after an ocean voyage of fourteen days. Because of the fact that his wife had relatives living in Geneseo he made his way direct to this county and for the first two years following his arrival worked as a farm hand for a brother-in-law, while subsequently he was employed in that capacity by Joshua Harper for eleven years. On the expiration of that period, by dint of unremitting industry and close economy, he had accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to purchase a farm of his own and in 1878 came into possession of eighty acres on section 5, Cornwall township, paying a little more than fifty dollars an acre for the property. Bending his energies to its further development, he soon brought the place under a high state of cultivation and improvement and annually garnered bounteous harvests that found a ready and profitable sale on the market. In 1908, having won a competence

by reason of his well directed labors and capable management, he put aside the active work of the fields and has since lived retired in Geneseo.

On the 29th of March, 1866, in England, Mr. Ole was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Ward, a native of Somersetshire, by whom he had two children, namely: Edwin Maurice, who resides on his farm in Munson township; and Jennie Helena, who also lives in Munson township and is the wife of A. T. Lewis. The wife and mother passed away on the 3d of March, 1875, and on the 11th of June, 1876, Mr. Ole was again married, his second union being with Miss Eunice Kewer, whose birth occurred in Onondaga county, New York, August 4, 1855. Her parents, John and Maria (Gay) Kewer, both of whom were natives of England, passed away in Michigan and New York, respectively. In the fall of 1857 Mrs. Ole was brought to Illinois by an aunt, Mrs. Susan Field, and it was in Geneseo that she gave her hand in marriage to our subject. Her children are two in number, as follows: Frank, who resides on the home farm in Cornwall township; and Susan Alice, who lives at North English, Iowa, and is the wife of E. L. Hannon, by whom she has a son, Vincent L.

In his political views Mr. Ole is independent, always supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified regardless of party affiliation. For nine years he did effective service for the cause of education as a school director and likewise acted as road commissioner for three years. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for in this country he has found the opportunities which he sought and through their utilization has worked his way upward until he is now one of the substantial and respected citizens of his community, his life indicating what may be accomplished by determination and well directed energy.

---

### LOUIS VERBECKMOES.

One of the busiest business places in Atkinson is that which is known as the "up-to-date department store," of which Louis Verbeckmoes is the proprietor. A man of broad education and of wide experience, he has used his opportunities of advancing the welfare of this prosperous little city, as well as of promoting his individual interests. For a score of years he has been connected with the life of Atkinson. He was born near Antwerp, Belgium, in the year 1853, and is a son of Martin and Johanna (Smith) Verbeckmoes, both natives of Belgium, where the father was engaged in farming until his death. They were the parents of four children: Joseph, of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Louis; Frank, also of Green Bay, Wisconsin; and May, the wife of John Quatsoe, of Green Bay, Wisconsin. About seven years ago both father and mother passed away.

Louis Verbeckmoes received a good education in the land of his birth, in the college in Ghent. After his graduation in 1870 he came to America, settling upon a farm in Wisconsin, which remained his home for about twenty years. He came then to Atkinson, opening here a general store on State street. He soon built up a large trade, and in 1905 erected the substantial brick building, on Main and State streets, which is now a veritable bee-hive for industry. Complete

in the many lines of stock exhibited and elegant in its appointments and in its facilities for the display of his merchandise, the "up-to-date department store" has won for itself a reputation that is not limited by the confines of the city of Atkinson. Courtesy, obligingness and fair-dealing on the part of the proprietor and the clerks, as much as the quality of goods displayed, insures the large patronage the store enjoys.

In 1882 Mr. Verbeckmoes was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Wynaer, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, but at the time residing in Green Bay, Wisconsin, whither she had gone with her parents when but a young girl. Her father and mother have both passed away, and are survived by five other children: Mrs. Verbeckmoes; Anthon and Alphons of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Barney, who was the third son; and Mrs. Christine Van DeVelde, who resides in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Verbeckmoes have five children, three born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and two in Atkinson. Arthur, the eldest, married Miss Gertie Rumler, and they have two children, Kenyon and Luretta. Kittie, is a graduate of St. Mary's Academy of Nauvoo, Illinois, and is now her father's bookkeeper. Joseph is a student of St. Bede's College, at Peru, Illinois. Maude and Frederick are pupils of the Atkinson schools. The family are members of the Catholic church and are devout in the performance of their religious duties. In their pretty home on Main street they enjoy the many comforts that are made possible through success in life. Well educated through books and through the great school of observation and experience, Mr. Verbeckmoes is broad minded and liberal in his views. He owes allegiance to no political party, but after due consideration gives his vote and influence to, as he believes, the best candidate and measure. Generous and kind-hearted, he possesses in large degree the capacity for making friends, who, knowing him intimately, confirm the high opinion of him entertained by those who are acquainted with him only through their business dealings.

---

### WILLIAM OLIVER.

William Oliver is one of the most venerable citizens of Henry county. He has made his home in this district for so long a period and his life has been so honorable and upright in all its relations that no history of the district would be complete without extended reference to him. His birth occurred in Rossshire, Scotland, February 7, 1827, and when a lad of ten years he was brought to America, the family home being established in that section of Fulton county which later, by division, became Stark county. His father, Thomas Oliver, was a shepherd in Scotland but on crossing the Atlantic to the new world became a farmer, devoting many years to general agricultural pursuits. He died at the age of eighty-three years, having long survived his wife, who passed away at the age of fifty-eight.

William Oliver was a lad of only ten years when he left the land of hills and heather for the western world, and his youthful days were passed in Stark county, the public schools affording him his educational privileges. He was reared, however, amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life. The

Black Hawk war had occurred only five years before the arrival of the family in Illinois and this entire section of the state was a wild pioneer district. The family settled on government land and there was little money in circulation, so that the people traded back and forth. William Oliver started to earn his own living as a chore boy, receiving ten cents per day but gradually his wages were increased until he was paid ten dollars a month for his services as a farm hand. In his early boyhood it seemed to him that he dropped all the corn in the neighborhood, a man following and covering the seed over with the hoe. This was not in plowed fields as we now plow but they were furrowed out and cross furrowed, the corn being dropped at the junction. Four or five acres would be planted in this manner in a day. As previously stated, the Oliver family first settled in Stark county, living on the open prairie. Many of the early settlers from the east thought nobody could live on the prairie, especially in the winter, and a very large number of the early citizens settled around the creeks and in the timbered portions of the county and very naturally became afflicted with ague. The first winter which the family spent in the state was passed at Joliet. They purchased forty acres of timber land in Stark county and possession was to be given at a certain time but as the previous owners could not build other houses for their accommodation the parents of William Oliver, with their ten children, and a son-in-law and two other families, totaling twenty-two, lived in a log house eighteen by twenty feet, with a loft. In entering the land from the government it was necessary to go to Dixon, where the government office was located. There was in that neighborhood one case of another man going in and entering his neighbor's land, which caused great commotion. An organization was formed for self protection in the community to keep out those who would jump claims. The early settlers had to pay from twenty to thirty per cent interest on money which they borrowed in order to purchase their land and pay for the necessary expense of its entry.

Mr. Oliver said land which he bought in later life at a cost of seventy-five dollars per acre was not nearly as hard to pay for as the first forty acres purchased through the efforts of other members of the family, who were working at ten cents per day. William Oliver's first farm, however, comprised one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid less than a dollar per acre and the place is today easily worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. He accumulated six hundred and forty acres, which is still in the family. Success came to him as the years passed by, owing to his unfaltering diligence and determination. He also manifested keen discernment in making his investments and won a place among the wealthy families of the county. He arrived in Henry county in 1852, settling in Wethersfield township, where he devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits.

In April, 1854, William Oliver was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Trumbull, a native of Scotland. Her father farmed after coming to this country, although he, too, had been a shepherd in his native land. He settled with his family in Stark county, where he purchased and developed farms and both he and his wife lived to a ripe old age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oliver were born ten children, all of whom reached years of maturity, while six are yet living: Thomas, a resident farmer of Henry county; Mary, the wife of Archie Turner, who fol-

lows farming in Iowa; William, who also follows farming in that state; John H., a practicing physcian of Kewanee; Jane, the wife of Elmer S. Good, who is engaged in the furniture business in Kewanee; and Nellie, the wife of W. J. Chubb, a farmer, residing in Colorado.

After a busy and useful life covering many years, William Oliver retired from business and established his home in Wethersfield, where he is now living in the enjoyment of well earned rest, the fruits of his former toil being sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. For many years he served as school director and the cause of education finds in him a substantial friend, his efforts being effective in promoting the interests of the schools and raising the standard of education. He holds membership in the United Presbyterian church and has been an elder in the church for the past twelve or fifteen years. His life, honorable and upright in all of its purposes, has made him one of the valued citizens of the community, constituting his record an example that is well worthy of emulation. His mind forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He can remember when almost this entire section of the state was an unclaimed and uncultivated property for only here and there had a little cabin been built to show that the work of civilization was begun and the seeds of progress planted. Mr. Oliver tells many interesting tales of the early days when wild game was plentiful and wolves and other wild animals were frequently seen. The homes of the settlers were mostly cabins, lighted by candles, while the cooking was done by the fireplace. He has lived to see remarkable changes and has always rejoiced in the progress made by the county.

---

### LAWRENCE CHARLES JOHNSON.

Lawrence Charles Johnson, a well known and prominent citizen of Galva, his native town, has continuously served as notary public since 1893 and is also identified with the abstract and fire insurance business. He was born on the 6th of December, 1868, a son of Swan P. and Mary (Swanson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather and grandmother passed away when well advanced in years. Olof Swanson, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was likewise born in Sweden but in 1854 established his home in this country. He passed away in Dayton, Webster county, Iowa, at a ripe old age. His wife, Mrs. Anna Swanson, also lived to be very old. They had a family of six children, two of the sons enlisting in the Union Army and giving up their lives for their adopted country.

Swan P. Johnson, the father of Lawrence C. Johnson, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1857 and at once made his way to Galva, this county. The lady who afterward became his wife took up her abode in Galva soon after the year 1854. He was actively and successfully engaged in the merchant tailoring business at Galva until the time of his demise in February, 1893, when he had attained the age of fifty-five years. At the time of the Civil war he loyally fought for the interests of the Union as a private of Company D, Seventeenth

Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for about two years. He was taken prisoner at Holly Springs, Mississippi, but was soon afterward paroled. He gave his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and took an active and helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare. His wife, surviving him for more than a decade, was called to her final rest in May, 1903, when sixty-three years of age. She was a devoted and faithful member of the Congregational church and was the mother of three children, one son and two daughters, as follows: Mary L., the deceased wife of M. M. Keeler, of Galesburg, dying in January, 1904; Lawrence C., of this review; and Emma A., who died in January, 1894.

Lawrence C. Johnson was reared and educated in the place of his nativity, completing the high-school course by graduation in 1885. He then took a course in the Davenport Business College and in 1887, after leaving that institution, entered his father's tailoring establishment. In 1890 he was admitted to a partnership in the concern and soon after his father's death, in 1893, became sole proprietor of the business, which he successfully conducted until 1907, when he sold out. Early in the following year he disposed of the handsome stone front block at the head of Front street, which he had erected in 1895 and in which he conducted his business and on the site of which his father before him had been in active business since the Civil war. This building occupies the site of Mr. Johnson's birth and is now the elegant home of the Yocum Bank. As before stated he has continuously held the office of notary public since 1893—a fact which stands in incontrovertible evidence of his faithfulness and capability in the discharge of his duties, and with the exception of two years has been school treasurer since 1892. In 1908-9 he erected a handsome and modern office building on Main street at the north end of Exchange street, and the first floor of this he occupies as his office in connection with Judge A. E. Bergland. He has decided to devote his time and energies to the practice of law in the future and is now studying with that end in view.

On the 11th of June, 1891, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Clara Louise Seely, a native of Galva, Illinois, and a daughter of Isaac B. and Ann E. (Whittemore) Seely, who were married in Galva, Illinois, January 11, 1857, and were the parents of five children, as follows: Joel W., born April 16, 1858, died March 13, 1859; Whitfield W., born October 10, 1866, died August 25, 1883; Mary E., born October 3, 1870; died January 9, 1876; Clara Louise, now Mrs. Johnson, was born March 25, 1872; and Edward Isaac, born January 15, 1876, was accidentally drowned August 2, 1901. Mr. Seely was born in Orange county, New York, June 22, 1825, and came to Galva in 1856, where he conducted a drug business until his death, May 10, 1879. His ancestors for several generations back were residents of New York.

Ann E. (Whittemore) Seely was born February 10, 1838, at Enfield, Sullivan county, New Hampshire, and comes of Revolutionary stock, being a daughter of Joel Whittemore and Rachel Rebekah (Brown) Whittemore. Joel Whittemore died in 1855 and was a son of Peter Whittemore, who served in the Revolutionary war and was with Washington at Valley Forge. Rachel Rebekah (Brown) Whittemore died in Galva, Illinois, April 20, 1904, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, eight months and three days, having resided in Illinois since 1851. She

was born in Andover, New Hampshire, August 17, 1811, and was a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Huntoon) Brown, and Jonathan Brown's father served as a recruiting officer at his own expense in the Revolution and the state of New Hampshire afterward gave him a portion of land to reimburse him. Mrs. Seely still resides in Galva and holds a high place in the hearts of its citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are now the parents of five children: Amy S., born September 30, 1892; Alice H., born September 5, 1894; Whitfield W., born March 25, 1897; Marian R., born September 13, 1900; and Edward L., born November 4, 1902.

Politically Mr. Johnson is a stalwart advocate of the republican party and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust. He acted as town clerk for several terms, was also a member of the board of education and of the city council, and is now serving as school treasurer. He belongs to Galva Lodge, No. 243, A. F. & A. M., of which he is a past master, and takes a keen interest in all things pertaining to Masonry throughout the state and has been active in the Grand Lodge of Illinois. For four years he was junior grand deacon, has been a grand lecturer since 1900, and is now a member of the board of grand examiners, composed of five members who teach the work, holding schools of instruction throughout the state. He is also a member of Kewanee Chapter, No. 47, R. A. M.; Kewanee Commandery, No. 71, K. T.; and Mohammed Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Peoria. Both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star, being members of Galva Chapter, No. 57. Their religious faith is indicated by their membership in the Baptist church, in which Mr. Johnson is serving as trustee and treasurer, Mrs. Johnson as organist, while the two oldest daughters are members of the choir. His well spent life, characterized by all that is honorable in business and straightforward in his relation with his fellowmen, has brought him the uniform respect of all with whom he has come in contact.

---

### WILLIAM RICHARD WINTER.

One of the well improved and thoroughly modern farms of Cornwall township is that of three hundred and twenty acres on section 24, owned and operated by William Richard Winter. One of the native sons of Henry county, he was born in Annawan township, March 1, 1860, his parents being George and Mary (Gash) Winter. Both were born in Lincolnshire, England, were reared upon farms and there united in marriage May 13, 1859. Shortly after that date they started upon their journey to America, and after six weeks upon the ocean landed at New York, whence they came direct to Henry county, as two of Mr. Winter's brothers, Charles and John, were already living here. Upon arriving here Mr. Winter secured work at chopping wood for fifty cents a day and later herded sheep for Mr. Rider. He was frugal as well as industrious, and it was but a short time before he was able to buy some land and engage in farming for himself. Soon he owned one hundred and thirty acres, for which he had paid ten dollars an acre, and when his financial success warranted he bought one hundred and fifty acres

more, for forty-five dollars an acre. This large tract now constitutes the farm on which his son lives and thereon he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring September 8, 1899. His wife had passed away September 28, 1891. They were members of the Episcopal church, having been reared in that faith, while in his political views Mr. Winter adhered to the republican party. He was loyal to the country of his adoption and ever interested in advancing the welfare of the community in which he lived, although he never participated in public affairs. The hope that led him to seek a home in America was more than realized, and his last years were attended with many comforts and the esteem of a large circle of acquaintances.

William Richard Winter, who was the only son born to his parents, enjoyed the educational privileges afforded by the district school near his home, while even as a boy he was initiated into farm work. He remained with his father until his marriage, when he assumed the management of the property. Later it came to him as an inheritance and he has since carried on his agricultural labors so carefully and systematically that they have brought him a large measure of success. He was able to add forty acres to the tract his father had secured, his three hundred and twenty acres affording him not only spacious arable fields for the cultivation of cereals, but also large pastures for the stock he raises and feeds for the market. He has made many improvements upon the place, the good barn he built in 1904 and the large house in 1909, deserving especial mention. Both were constructed upon thoroughly modern plans and are equipped with many conveniences, including gas light throughout.

In Kewanee, Henry county, Illinois, on the 18th of February, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Winter and Miss Priscilla Plumbtree. She was born in Sheffield township, Bureau county, this state, November 27, 1863, a daughter of Elijah and Sophia (Bowles) Plumbtree. Her father was a native of Cambridgeshire, England, and came to America first when about fourteen years of age. After about a year he returned to his home accompanied by his two brothers, but was not content to live in the old country and accordingly when sixteen, came to the United States the second time. He located in New York state where he found employment on a dairy farm and in a cheese factory, and later removing to Lockport, that state, met and married, April 15, 1856, Miss Sophia Bowles. She was born in London, England, and was a maid of ten when she went to Canada with her parents, who later removed to New York. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Plumbtree came west to Illinois, settling first in Princeton, where he conducted a meat market, and later removed to Sheffield township, Bureau county, where he engaged in farming. Subsequently he leased his land and undertook coal mining, to which he devoted himself as long as he was able. He is now living retired in Kewanee, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years, while his wife has passed the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey. They were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are living. Politically Mr. Plumbtree is a stanch republican and in his religion a strict adherent of Methodism, while his wife is equally consistent in her allegiance to the Episcopalian faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Winter have had three children. William Clausen died in infancy. Ethel Jane was born on the home farm, February 17, 1893, and is now

in her second year in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute. Elijah, who was also born on the home farm, June 30, 1897, is likewise a sophomore in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute.

Mr. Winter has always been allied with the republican party politically, and while not an aspirant for office he has served efficiently as school director for a number of years. His life has been that of an energetic farmer, who carefully tills the soil, utilizing such modern, progressive and scientific methods as produce the best results in the raising of crops, and the success which is his is well merited.

---

### JARED HEBER SMITH.

Jared Heber Smith, an enterprising farmer of Osco township, who in addition to the cultivation of the soil is extensively engaged in raising, feeding and shipping stock, owns and occupies a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 23. He was born on the 9th of March, 1870, just across the road from his present home, his parents being Jared Hemingway and Mary E. (Knowles) Smith, who are represented on another page of this volume. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the old home farm and in addition to the training received in the district schools benefited by two years' instruction in the high school at Cambridge and a year's study in the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and by further training in Bryant & Stratton Business College in Chicago. He had almost completed his course in the last named institution when he obtained a position as clerk in a wholesale house in that city and remained in the employ of the firm for about a year, after which he returned to his farm to assist his father. He has since given his attention to general agricultural pursuits and is a representative of that progressive spirit which has been particularly manifest in agricultural circles in the last quarter of a century. In 1896 Mr. Smith married and purchased of his father eighty acres of land, for which he paid eighty dollars an acre. He has since extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres in Osco township and owns in addition three hundred and twenty acres in Wilkin county, Minnesota. That tract, like his farm in Henry county, is under a high state of cultivation.

On the 17th of June, 1896, in Grace church in Osco township, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Minnie May Hadley, who was born in Osco township, May 23, 1877, and is a daughter of David and Julia (Gillett) Hadley. Her girlhood days were spent in her parents' home and during that period she acquired a good education in the public schools. Eight children have been born of this marriage: Jared Heber, born April 8, 1897; Julian David, April 28, 1898; Thorwald Hadley, November 10, 1899; Frederick George, December 10, 1901; Richard Knowles, June 17, 1903; Majorie May, January 2, 1905; Janice Minerva, October 13, 1906; and Ruth Elizabeth, July 25, 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are devoted members of Grace Episcopal church, in which Mr. Smith is serving as a vestryman. Politically he is a republican, with firm faith in the principles of the party but without desire for political office. He

has served, however, as school trustee and is interested in progressive movements whereby the material, intellectual and moral advancement of the community is promoted. He enjoys pleasant relations with his brethren of the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Cambridge Lodge, No. 49, A. F. & A. M. His has been a well spent life in which energy, industry and determination have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in his path and work his way steadily upward. He is now numbered among the representative farmers of Osco township and as a citizen holds high rank.

---

### JOHN MYERS.

John Myers, who since 1897 has conducted a dry goods and clothing establishment at Galva, is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred near Galva on the 10th of September, 1865. His parents, Fred and Mary (Healey) Myers, were natives of Pennsylvania and Ireland respectively. The father, who was left an orphan when still very young, became an agriculturist by occupation. He took up his abode at Galva, this county, in 1854 and there continued to reside until called to his final rest, being engaged in various pursuits. He did active service as a soldier during the entire period of the Civil war, being a private in the Fifty-seventh Illinois Cavalry. His demise occurred in 1907, when he had attained the ripe old age of seventy-eight years, and his loss was deeply mourned throughout the community in which he had made his home for more than a half century. He was a faithful communicant of the Catholic church, to which his widow also belongs. The latter still survives at the age of seventy-four years. Mr. Myers of this review had but one brother, Fred, who died in infancy.

John Myers was reared in Galva and attended the public schools in the acquirement of an education. On putting aside his text-books he began clerking for Messrs. Stoddard and Larson and after the latter purchased Mr. Stoddard's interest, he remained in the employ of Mr. Larson for a period of sixteen years. In 1897, believing that his long experience and familiarity with mercantile interests justified him in embarking in business on his own account, he opened a dry goods and clothing store on the south side. Though he established the enterprise on a small scale, it has steadily grown year by year until he now has an extensive patronage and employs several clerks to assist him in the conduct of the business.

On the 10th of February, 1909, Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Mrs. C. W. Olberg, the widow of Louis Olberg, of Camp Point, Illinois. She is a native of Knox county, Illinois, and her parents, Peter and Christine (Norquist) Osterberg, were born in Sweden. They became early settlers of Knox county, Illinois, and there passed away. Their children were three in number, namely: Fred, who is now deceased; Gus, a resident of Knox county; and Mrs. Myers.

Mr. Myers gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy but has no desire for the honors and emoluments of office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business affairs. Fraternally he has been

identified with the Improved Order of Red Men for twenty years, and his wife is a consistent and faithful member of the Presbyterian church. Having spent his entire life in this locality, he has a wide acquaintance and his salient characteristics are such as have gained for him the friendly regard and good will of all with whom he has been associated through either business or social relations.

---

#### WILLIAM S. WEIMER.

William S. Weimer, who devotes his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 11, Geneseo township. His birth occurred on the 9th of August, 1869, his parents being Samuel and Catherine (Neiswender) Weimer, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. The father was a farmer by occupation and remained a respected and worthy resident of Henry county until called to his final rest in February, 1899. In politics he was a democrat. His wife has also passed away, her demise occurring on the 7th of April, 1896. They became the parents of seven children, six of whom still survive, as follows: Ella, who is the wife of Byron Beers and resides in Atkinson township; Matilda, who gave her hand in marriage to William Neiswender, of Geneseo; William S., of this review; Isabelle, who is the wife of Alden McHenry and makes her home in Phenix township; Pearl, who is the wife of Arthur Townley, of Hanna township; and Delia, who wedded William Hannon and resides in South English, Iowa.

William S. Weimer obtained his education in the Jackson school and remained with his father until two years after his marriage, assisting in the cultivation of the home farm and thus becoming thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and planting the crops. In February, 1899, he took up his abode on the farm where his wife had been born and reared, the place consisting of one hundred and twenty acres on section 11, Geneseo township. Here he has since carried on his agricultural interests with gratifying success, the fields annually yielding golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

On the 1st of February, 1893, Mr. Weimer was united in marriage to Miss Celia Burgeson, who was born in Geneseo township on the 30th of June, 1874, her parents being Jonas and Anna Marie (Swanson) Burgeson, natives of Sweden. The father, whose birth occurred October 5, 1821, came to Henry county, Illinois, in August, 1856, and here followed farming until called to his final rest on the 23d of November, 1888. During the period of the Civil war he loyally defended the interests of the Union as a member of a regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, while fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Both he and his wife were devoted and consistent members of the Swedish Lutheran church, and their remains were interred in the Geneseo township cemetery. Mrs. Burgeson, who survived her husband for two decades, was born on the 27th of December, 1831, and passed away April 7, 1908. During the last six years of

her life she was confined to her bed as the result of a paralytic stroke and her cheerfulness and patience during this trying period proved a source of inspiration to those who ministered to her wants. She was the mother of ten children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, namely: Hannah, whose birth occurred December 25, 1858, and who now resides in Montana with her brother Jacob; Burg, who was born on the 2d of September, 1860, and who makes his home with our subject; Abraham, whose natal day was March 6, 1862, and who passed away December 31, 1895; Isaac, who was born November 6, 1864, and lives in Washington; Jacob, born December 22, 1866, who makes his home in Montana; Bertha, who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 25th of April, 1869, and who gave her hand in marriage to Edward Johnson, of Chicago; Samuel, who died in infancy; and Mrs. Weimer. All of the above named were natives of Geneseo township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Weimer were born five children, as follows: John, who died in infancy; Laura Anna, whose birth occurred January 3, 1901; Ruth Orvilla, whose natal day was September 13, 1903; Dorothy M., who was born July 15, 1903; and Spencer Andrew, born September 27, 1909. They also have an adopted son, Richard, whose birth occurred in Geneseo township on the 26th of January, 1895, and whom they have reared from the age of fourteen months. The lad was a son of Abraham and Pauline (Lidque) Burgeson, his father being a brother of Mrs. Weimer.

Mr. Weimer is a republican in politics and is now serving as a school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a staunch champion. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen and the Knights of the Globe. Both he and his wife belong to the Grace Evangelical church and exemplify its teachings in their daily lives. They have a host of warm friends throughout the county in which they have always resided and are widely recognized as people of genuine personal worth. Mr. Weimer well merits the proud American title of a self-made man, for the success which he now enjoys is directly attributable to his own enterprise and energy.

---

### H. J. VANCE.

In the few months that he has been in Atkinson H. J. Vance has proved himself one of the most energetic young business men of the town and under his management the store of Frank Hyman & Company, clothiers, bids fair to become one of the best of its kind in the county. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, April 26, 1876, and is a son of J. R. and Anna (Jones) Vance. The father, who was of Pennsylvanian nativity, came to Illinois about forty years ago, locating in Ottawa, where he pursued farming. He died in 1896, four years after his wife had passed away. Only two children were born to them. The daughter, Sarah, is the wife of William J. Bigger, of Kansas City, Missouri.

H. J. Vance received a good education, for after he had completed the course in the public schools, he attended the Ottawa Business College. His lessons over, he embarked upon his commercial career. For three years he clerked in the clothing store of Fisk & Beem in Ottawa, and then, in 1898, he went to

Streator, Illinois, where he obtained employment in Stauber's pants factory. He next went to Kewanee as a clerk in a clothing store. His abilities recommended him to the clothing firm of Frank Hyman & Company, of Kewanee, and they sent him, in January, 1908, to open and manage their branch store in Atkinson. It is the only concern here which handles exclusively men's furnishings, and it aims to meet the requirements of the most fastidious tastes. They carry a complete line of everything that is necessary for perfect masculine attire and keep abreast of the styles popular in the large cities. The stock is kept fresh and replenished and the manager is untiring in procuring the satisfaction of every customer.

On the 15th of September, 1905, Mr. Vance wedded Miss Mary Carlson, of Princeton, Illinois, a daughter of Magnus and Christine Carlson. The father had passed away, but the mother is still living in Princeton. They were the parents of six other children: Minnie, now Mrs. Honstehan, of Joliet, Illinois; Esther, the wife of Ed Thore, of Princeton; Albert, who also lives in Princeton; August, engaged in railroad construction in Montana; Lee, who lives in Seattle, Washington; and Arthur, who is in a clothing business in Princeton, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Vance have two daughters: Frances, who was born in Kewanee, August 27, 1907; and Margaret, born April 27, 1909.

Of tried experience before he assumed his present position, Mr. Vance gives every indication of living up to the high hopes that were placed in him by the firm that has established a branch of their business here. The store fills a long felt want in the community and seems in every way fitted to meet the demands made upon it. These are constantly increasing, due both to the up-to-date methods of the manager and the spread of its fame by well pleased patrons.

---

#### HUGH WALLACE BAILEY, M. D. V.

Dr. Hugh Wallace Bailey, a veterinary surgeon of Orion, has become recognized as a man of ability in his chosen calling, who through the exercise of his native talents has become very successful in the practice of his profession. One of Illinois' native sons, he was born near Coal Valley, Rock Island county, on the 26th of January, 1872, and is a son of James and Margaret (Warnock) Bailey. Both parents were born in County Down, Ireland, and came to America with their parents in the year 1849. The Bailey and Warnock families sailed on the same vessel from the old country, landing in New York after a voyage of eleven weeks, and then together went to Buffalo by way of the Erie canal and thence to Chicago by the lakes. From that city they traveled overland to Rock Island county, where the homes of both families were established, and where the grandfathers of our subject, Robert Bailey and John Warnock, were both engaged in the occupation of farming. In the Warnock family were six sons and two daughters, while the Bailey family consisted of three sons and one daughter who grew to maturity and twin daughters who passed away in infancy.

James Bailey, the father of Dr. Bailey, also engaged in farming in Rock Island county, in which line of activity he was very successful, becoming a large

landowner. He and his father-in-law, John Warnock, were the first to introduce into that county thoroughbred Durham cattle, and both became very extensive breeders, their stock becoming widely known throughout the district, being in great demand for breeding purposes. They were both republicans in politics and were very active and prominent in community affairs, especially Mr. Warnock, who was supervisor of Rural township for many years. Mr. Bailey was a prominent and faithful member of the United Presbyterian church, in which he served as elder for a number of years, and was also an active worker in the Sunday school, being a man of excellent character and high and honorable principles, who enjoyed the unqualified respect and regard of all who were associated with him in business or private life. He passed away on the 16th of August, 1897, his remains being interred in the Homestead church cemetery near his old home. His widow still survives and is a most estimable lady, greatly admired and loved by all who know her. In their family were eight children, all of whom still survive, namely: Mary E., at home; Anna, principal of a school at Moline, Illinois; William W., practicing medicine at LeClaire, Iowa; Jennie, who married Rolland Metzler and makes her home on the old home farm in Rock Island county; John W., who is married and carries on farming near Coal Valley; Hugh Wallace, of this review; Ella, the wife of Roy Ferguson, a prominent farmer of Western township; and Bessie, a teacher in the Henry county schools.

No event of special importance came to vary the routine of life for Hugh Wallace Bailey during the period of his boyhood and youth, which was spent in Rock Island county, amid the scenes and environments of rural life. He spent his time in the usual manner of the country lads of that day, acquiring his early education in the district schools near his home. He remained under the parental roof, giving his father the benefit of his assistance in the work of the home farm, until he attained his majority, when he started out in business life on his own account as a farmer. He was married when about twenty-five years of age, after which he purchased a farm in Rural township, Rock Island county, and there carried on general farming for a number of years. He also became an extensive raiser and breeder of thoroughbred Hereford cattle, in which he was eminently successful. He was thus engaged until 1906 when, thinking a professional life would be more congenial if not more profitable, he went to Chicago, where he became a student in the McKillip Veterinary College. During the periods of vacation he established himself in his profession in Orion, Henry county, and immediately upon his graduation, which occurred in March, 1909, took up a permanent location in this city and has since been engaged in the practice of his chosen calling here. He maintains a hospital for the treatment of all kinds of animal diseases and although he has been here but a short time, he has already built up a large practice among the farmers and stockmen of the community in Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island counties, which is constantly growing in volume and importance. He makes a specialty of animal dentistry and in this line has been very successful, his reputation as a careful, capable and efficient practitioner extending over a wide territory.

On the 25th of August, 1897, Dr. Bailey was united in marriage to Miss Jennie S. Wilson, a daughter of John A. and Jennie (Scott) Wilson, of Rock Island county, Illinois, both parents being natives of the Prairie state. The

father is a son of Judge Wilson, who for many years was judge of Rock Island county and a most benevolent gentleman, befriending the wives and widows of the soldiers during the time of the Civil war. John A. Wilson was for a number of years an extensive and successful farmer of Rock Island county, also carrying on stock-raising on a very large scale. He was well known in public circles, being a very prominent and influential factor in community affairs. A democrat in politics, he was supervisor of Rural township for a longer time than any other man. He and his wife still survive and make their home on their ranch near Emmet, Nebraska. They are the parents of four daughters and two sons, Jennie Saria, the wife of Dr. Bailey, being the only member of the family living in Henry county. The entire Wilson family are musical in their taste, Mrs. Wilson being a very accomplished musician, while a daughter, Alma E., is an instructor of music in the Leonard-Wilson School of Music in Chicago and also a vocal teacher in the Cosmopolitan School of Music & Dramatic Art in that city. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Bailey have been born three daughters, Elta M., Jennie Lucille and Helen W., all of whom are yet in school. They all seem to inherit considerable musical ability from their mother, who is very proficient in that art, and they will be given thorough advanced training in both music and literature.

Dr. Bailey and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, the latter being very active in the work of both the church and Sunday school. Fraternally he belongs to Valley Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M., at Coal Valley, and also to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he supports both parties, doing all in his power to further the best interests of the community but has never desired nor held public office himself. He has not, however, been remiss in his duties of citizenship, but on the other hand has been actively and helpfully interested in community affairs, always keeping thoroughly posted in all matters of public moment. He is very strong in his advocacy of all measures which are calculated to conserve and promote the public welfare and his influence at all times is on the side of progress, advancement and reform. Early trained to habits of industry and diligence, those qualities have been manifest throughout his entire business career and have been salient elements in the gratifying measure of success which he today enjoys. He also inherited from his parents their high ideals of life and his record has ever been in harmony with those things which go to make up honorable and upright manhood, so that he ranks foremost among Orion's representative and valued citizens.

---

### IRVING J. TURNBULL.

Irving J. Turnbull, the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 17, Wethersfield township, devotes his energies to that line of activity which George Washington designated as "the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Stark county on the 14th of December, 1878. His paternal grandparents, Robert and Margaret (Graham) Turn-

bull, who were natives of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up their abode among the earliest settlers of Elmira, Stark county. John G. Turnbull, the father of our subject, was but eight years of age when he came to this state with his parents and here he continued to reside until called to his final rest in 1894. The demise of his wife occurred at Kewanee in June, 1903.

Irving J. Turnbull supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the district schools of Stark county, by a course of study in the Kewanee high school and later spent a year in the Iowa City Commercial College. He then returned to the home farm in Stark county and there remained until sixteen years of age, when he lost his father and removed to Kewanee with his widowed mother. In the spring of 1900 he took up his abode on the farm left him by his father—a tract of land comprising one hundred and sixty acres situated four miles southwest of Kewanee. Here he has since carried on his agricultural interests with excellent success, the land being some of the best to be found in Wethersfield township. It is all very level and under a high state of cultivation and improvement. With the exception of the house and one shed, he has erected all of the buildings which now stand upon the place and has built a new windmill and water system that furnishes all the barns and even the house with a constant supply of water. He has the assistance of but one hired man in the active work of the fields and in the conduct of his farming interests has won a measure of prosperity that entitles him to recognition among the successful and representative citizens of the community.

On the 22d of June, 1899, in Elmira, Stark county, Mr. Turnbull was united in marriage to Miss Myrtle McLeod, a daughter of Kenneth McLeod, an early settler of that county. They now have three children, namely: Helen C., seven years old, who is now attending school; and Ivan K. and Linus C., who are five and three years of age respectively.

At the polls Mr. Turnbull casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. He has capably served in the capacity of school director for one term. He and his wife are a highly esteemed young couple of the community in which they reside, having ever displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard.

---

### JOHN SAMUELSON.

Not only has the life of John Samuelson been productive of such good fortune for himself that warranted his relinquishing his heavier cares, but his record is one which in more ways than one is an inspiration to those younger men about him to exert themselves to nobler manhood, for although he was of Swedish birth, he did not hesitate to offer himself in support of the country of his adoption, when there was need of his loyalty to it. He is now living on Orchard street, Orion, but for a number of years he cultivated three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 25, Western township, which is still in his possession

and is operated by his son. He was born November 25, 1835, and was about fifteen when, in 1851, his parents, Samuel and Anna (Nelson) Johnson, brought their family to America. They stayed about six months in the city of Buffalo, New York, whence they traveled by boat to Chicago, traversing the distance from there to Henry county with horse and wagon. Here the father entered eighty acres of government land, on which he made his home until his death.

In his native land John Samuelson received a very limited education, and when he came to the United States he had no knowledge of or acquaintance with our language. Nor were there any schools here then, so that he was compelled to make his way as best he could. That he surmounted all obstacles valiantly none can deny. At the age of twenty-one years, when he began to assume responsibilities, he secured an interest in a threshing outfit which he operated throughout the township with a success that promised well for subsequent years.

His agricultural pursuits, however, were interrupted by the inauguration of the Civil war, in which he determined to participate. Accordingly, in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Forty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was sent first to St. Louis, from there through Missouri, and after returning to St. Louis was sent south. At the battle at Pittsburg Landing his regiment lost heavily, although he came from the fray unwounded. That was his good fortune throughout the course of the war, for although in a number of hotly contested engagements, like Shiloh, the siege of Corinth and Salem Cemetery, he was never wounded, was never in a hospital and never fell into the hands of the enemy. In the battles of Somerville, Tennessee, Vicksburg, Little Rock, Prairie Den and Jenkins Ferry, he also proved his valor, winning promotion to the rank of corporal and later to that of sergeant. After more than three years of service, he was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Henry county, where he immediately took up the occupation to which he had devoted himself before the war. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, for which he paid fifteen dollars an acre, and later bought a farm of like area for which he paid more than four times as much, buying it at the rate of sixty-five dollars an acre. This large tract, which he still owns, has greatly improved through the course of years, for his ideas of progress and his good management, which has been guided by keen foresight, have played quite as conspicuous a part in his success as has the industry which has been one of his conspicuous characteristics. For about thirty years it was his home, until 1897, when he removed to the village of Orion, where he has since resided in the enjoyment of a generous income and in the memory of a life well spent in earnest endeavor.

In Andover, in June, 1867, Mr. Samuelson wedded Miss Mary Lawrence, a native of Sweden, who came to this country when she was about eighteen years of age. Her parents Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Lawrence, never left their native land, in which the last years of their lives were passed. All of the family of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuelson are living. John, who has remained a bachelor, took a course of study in Augustana College and later in Davenport. Arthur, who has also stayed single, attended the Geneseo Collegiate Institute, later the business college in Davenport and is now in the state of Washington.

William was a pupil in the common schools, later continuing his education at Abigdon, Illinois, and is now a farmer at Ponca, Oklahoma. He married Miss Della Johnson and they have four children. A sketch of Guy follows this. Mabel attended the high school at Orion. Esther, the youngest, was graduated from that institution with the class of 1907. The two daughters have also had a musical education, for Mr. Samuelson, having experienced the hardships attendant upon little schooling, has made every endeavor to give his children the advantages of a thorough preparation for life which he did not enjoy. Mrs. Samuelson died March 17, 1904.

When he was admitted to citizenship in this republic Mr. Samuelson decided to look to the republican party for guidance in political matters and cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Since that time his allegiance to the party which supported the Union has been unswerving, and it was upon its ticket that he was elected to the positions of school director and trustee and highway commissioner, in which capacities he served efficiently through a long period of years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in harmony with whose teachings he has lived. When Trego Post, G. A. R., was organized he joined it as a charter member, and in the course of years has attended the reunions of his fellow soldiers and the national reunion at Milwaukee.

---

#### GUY ERNEST SAMUELSON.

Among the enterprising young farmers of Western township is Guy Ernest Samuelson, the third son of John Samuelson, who operates his father's large tract of land. Born in the house in which he now lives, September 11, 1882, almost his whole life has been passed in agricultural pursuits upon the half section of land which is now the scene of his labors. As a boy he was early initiated by his father into the secrets of farming, while he attended the common schools of his locality, to obtain a good practical education. At the expiration of his school days he engaged in clerking in a store in Orion, an occupation he followed for two years, and then worked upon a farm during the summer months and teamed in the village during the winter. Shortly after his father retired from active life, he and his two older brothers undertook the management of the home place, and about 1902 he bought the interests of the others and has since conducted it alone. While a large part of his land is devoted to general farming, he has made a specialty of stock raising and feeding. He breeds pure blooded Clydesdale horses and pastures a large number of cattle which he ships to the market annually. These interests have brought him an income commensurate with that obtained from his agriculture, so that he is rapidly advancing along the road of success which was traversed in such a remarkable manner by his father. Indeed it is by some of the same strong traits of character observable in the older man, which has won him his good fortune and also the good will and respect of his fellowmen.

After he had proved to himself that he was able to achieve a fair name and fortune for himself, Mr. Samuelson wedded, in Rock Island, January 25, 1905,

Miss Signa Carlson, of Cambridge. Of Swedish birth, she came to America at the age of seventeen, leaving her parents, John and Christina (Johnson) Carlson, at Nassgo, Sweden, where they are still living. Having been bred to belief in the principles of the republican party from his youth, he has given to it his allegiance, but he has sought no office within the gift of the people. He and his wife are consistent members of the Swedish Lutheran church, while fraternally he has allied himself with the Mystic Workers and with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a charter member of a camp of the latter society, and with Mrs. Samuelson belongs to the Royal Neighbors. A young man who has just begun upon his life's career, he may well look forward to many years of prosperity and advancement in his chosen vocation.

---

### FRANK W. PLUMMER.

Frank W. Plummer, who is successfully engaged in business as a florist of Kewanee, is a member of the firm of Hamilton & Plummer, conducting an extensive enterprise of this character. He was born in Bureau county, Illinois, on the 20th of August, 1864. His father, Benjamin Plummer, whose birth occurred in Kentucky on the 5th of July, 1818, went to Indiana with his parents when a boy, was married in that state and there most of his children were born. Removing to Bureau county, Illinois, he there followed farming for a number of years but in 1865 disposed of his property, intending to establish his home in the west. He drove as far as Kewanee, Henry county, and stopped here for the winter. One of his sons, who was at that time serving in the Civil war, was taken sick and returned home to Kewanee, where his demise occurred. Mr. Plummer decided to remain in this county and devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits in Kewanee and Wethersfield townships until the time of his retirement from active life in 1881. He passed away in Princeton, Illinois, in 1892 and was buried in Kewanee. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Elvira Evans, a native of North Carolina, whose father was a large slaveholder prior to the war of the Rebellion. Her demise occurred in 1892 in Princeton, Illinois, and her remains were also interred in Kewanee.

Frank W. Plummer, who was but a year old when brought to this county by his parents, obtained his education in the public schools of Wethersfield and Kewanee. He remained on his father's farm until fifteen years of age and then became identified with his present line of business, securing employment with E. M. Vail, a well known florist and nurseryman of Kewanee. At the end of about six years he went to Minneapolis and there worked as a florist for two years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Kewanee and took charge of the Lake Park Greenhouse. After being thus engaged for four years he became associated with Watson L. and Leroy F. Hamilton in the conduct of a greenhouse on a small scale, catering to the retail trade. This relation was maintained until 1906, in which year Watson L. Hamilton passed away and Leroy F. Hamilton sold his interest in the business to his brother, Claude M. Hamilton, who had been admitted to the firm on the 1st of January, 1900. The

business has continually grown until the firm of Hamilton & Plummer now conducts a large floral establishment, wholesale and retail, supplying not only the local trade but also making sales throughout the surrounding country for a considerable radius.

On the 10th of April, 1886, in Kewanee, Mr. Plummer was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Avery, a daughter of M. J. and Elizabeth Avery, natives of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Plummer are now the parents of four sons, namely: Edward S., a young man of twenty-three years, who is employed by his father; Frank W., a twin brother of Edward, who also works for his father; Clifford B., who is nineteen years of age and resides at home; and Clarence L., a lad of eleven years, who is attending school.

In his political views Mr. Plummer is a stanch republican, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America at Kewanee and also the Red Men. He is a man of good business ability, of exemplary habits and upright character, is worthy the trust of his fellowmen and fully merits the good will which is uniformly extended him.

---

### JOHN STEPHEN COLLINS.

The late John Stephen Collins, who for many years was one of the substantial farmers of Geneseo township, was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1832, being a son of Stephen and Margaret (Fennel) Collins, also natives of Ireland. The mother died when John S. Collins was but a child, and of her four children but one now survives, Stephen Collins, of Southbury, Connecticut. When about sixteen years old, John S. Collins came to America, having previously secured a common-school education. This was in 1851 and he began working in Southburg, Connecticut, remaining there until his marriage, when he came as far west as Indiana, then newly settled. There he obtained employment by the month but not being satisfied he pushed still further westward and located in Geneseo, where he worked on the railroad for some time. Later he teamed until he began farming, which was his occupation until death claimed him.

The homestead still owned by his widow is a valuable one hundred and sixty acre farm two and one-half miles from the city. He improved this land, building fine barns and a substantial house and he left the property in a model condition. Politically he was a democrat and held a number of township offices, although he preferred to attend to his own affairs. He was a member of the Roman Catholic church and died firm in its faith October 26, 1906, his remains being interred in Oakwood cemetery in Geneseo.

Mr. Collins married Miss Catherine Holhen at Southbury, Connecticut, but she died after the birth of their third child in 1858 or 1859. The children were as follows: Stephen A., a farmer of Buffalo, Iowa, who has a coal mine on his property, is married and has four sons: Thomas, a Dakota Farmer; Francis and John, both Iowa farmers, and William, who is sixteen and at home. Mary Agnes, the wife of James A. Thomas, a railroad man living in Chicago, and

they have one daughter, Catherine, aged four years. Catherine, the third child of John S. Collins, is the wife of H. S. Wood, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, a blacksmith and repairer, and they have two children: Jerome A.; Edith M., the wife of Dr. Garland of Oskaloosa; and Irene, at home. The father gave to his sons the farm property they now own.

Mr. Collins was again married August 15, 1859, to Catherine Maher, who was born December 25, 1842, in Limerick, Ireland, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Lonney) Maher, natives of the same place, where the father farmed, and both spent their lives there. They had one son and three daughters, of whom Mrs. Collins is the only survivor. Mr. and Mrs. Collins became the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are living: J. Collins, born August 31, 1860, is deceased and his remains are buried in Geneseo; Ella, born February 6, 1862, died and is also buried in Geneseo; Andrew, born July 8, 1863, is deceased; Thomas, born August 13, 1864, passed away at the age of eighteen, January 27, 1882, and lies with the others in Geneseo; Anna, born December 13, 1867, lives with her mother; Dennis L., born June 8, 1869, was married in 1901 to Catherine Prey, and they live in Munson township and have three children, Catherine, Margaret L. and John; Helen V., born September 27, 1871, was married April 28, 1897, to Joseph Rink, of Phenix township, and they had seven children, Leo, deceased, Ruth, Anna, Joseph, Helen, Lucy and Mary; John P., born January 13, 1874, married Emma Becker and they live in Atkinson township on a farm; Lucy Edith, born December 10, 1876, married John Murphy, a farmer of Kilkenny, Minnesota, and they have one child, Catherine C.; Francis E. L., born June 12, 1878, lives with his mother and conducts her farm, a very pleasant, agreeable young man; James Vincent, born March 23, 1880, died April 16, 1905, and is buried with the other children; Joseph Sylvester, born March 28, 1882, married Mary Fenley, January 27, 1908, and they live in Caledonia, Minnesota. The last named is a practicing physician, a graduate from the medical college of Iowa City in 1905 and is now in charge of the Caledonia hospital. He had been practicing at Atkinson for three years before going to Minnesota. In 1907 Dr. Collins built the office, residence and operating room on Main street, all of which are thoroughly modern. The family is very proud of his success, especially his mother.

The late John S. Collins was a self-made man in the best sense of the word. He had little or nothing when he began life, but by hard labor, economical habits and the assistance of his wife he was able to accumulate a comfortable property and leave his family well provided for at his death.

Mrs. Collins and her daughter are members of St. Malachi's church of Geneseo, of which Mr. Collins was one of the builders and supporters. The new church was finished in 1908 and Mrs. and Miss Collins presented the altar and a large stained glass window as a memorial of John S. Collins. Frank Collins subscribed five hundred dollars towards the building fund. Dr. Collins was on the building committee of the new Catholic school, known as St. Anthony's, which was completed in 1908, so that the family have been very prominent in church affairs in Henry county. The unmarried daughter and son are nobly devoting themselves to making their beloved mother's declining years happy and keeping her from grieving too much over the loss of her husband to whom she

was so devotedly attached. It is the hope of them all to return to the home at an early date.

John S. Collins was one of the sturdy, hardy, honest men of Henry county. He was upright in all his dealings; kind-hearted, liberal and generous in forgiving the faults of others, so that when he died the whole community joined the family in mourning his loss.

---

### EDWARD JAMES RAY.

Edward James Ray, who for the past seven years has capably discharged the duties devolving upon him in the capacity of township supervisor, is an enterprising and progressive farmer and stock raiser of Wethersfield township. He is a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred in Madrid, St. Lawrence county, on the 27th of August, 1854. His father, Orion L. Ray, who was born in Vermont, removed to Battle Creek, Michigan, about 1857 and there practiced law and taught school. For some years he likewise served as county judge of Barry county and his demise there occurred about 1891, when he had attained the age of sixty-five years. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Harriett D. Shaw, who was a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and a daughter of Colonel Enis Shaw. She came of Vermont parentage and was a descendent in the fourth generation of Daniel Putnam, a brother of Israel Putnam. She passed away in Michigan in January, 1859, at the comparative early age of twenty-nine years.

Edward James Ray obtained his education in the public schools of his native county and also of Henry county, Illinois, for he was a lad of thirteen when he came here to make his home with an aunt. When eighteen years of age he had completed the prescribed course of study in the Wethersfield high school, at that time known as the Academy, and then turned his attention to the profession of teaching, following that calling during the fall and winter months for about twenty years. In the summer seasons he worked as a farm hand and after having been thus employed for five years he purchased a tract of eighty acres on section 10, Wethersfield township, which remained his home until 1894 and which he still cultivates. He has always operated more or less rented land in connection with his own property and for the past fifteen years has farmed two hundred and forty-five acres, residing on what is known as the M. B. Potter place on sections 9 and 10 Wethersfield township. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he likewise raises considerable stock and breeds many good horses, breeding a number of thoroughbred Percherons some years ago. He is also interested in Wethersfield real estate to some extent and is widely recognized as one of the substantial, respected and representative citizens of the community.

On the 20th of March, 1878, at Wethersfield, Mr. Ray was united in marriage to Miss Cynthia M. Kellogg, a daughter of Albert B. and Harriett E. Kellogg, of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Ray are the parents of four children, namely: Henry K., who is thirty years of age and follows farming in Wethersfield town-

ship; Enis S., a young man of twenty-seven, who is likewise an agriculturist of Wethersfield township; William E., who is twenty-three years old and still resides at home; and Esther M., a young lady of nineteen, who attends the Wheaton school.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Ray has supported the men and measures of the republican party and for a number of years past has been an active worker in its local ranks. He acted as town clerk for some years prior to his election to the office of supervisor of Wethersfield township, which position he has held for the past seven years. He is now serving his fourth two years' term and that he has been an able and faithful incumbent in the office is proven by the fact that at the last election he was chosen without opposition. For fifteen consecutive years he has been a member of the Wethersfield board of education and his aid and cooperation can always be counted upon to further any movement or measure instituted to promote the public welfare. He was largely instrumental in securing the commons for the Wethersfield high school. In January, 1908, he was made chairman of a special committee which was appointed to make settlement with the county and ex-county officials who had been found short in their accounts by John Finley, accountant. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Kewanee Congregational church, in which he is serving as deacon and of which he acted as a trustee for five years. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than four decades and he is widely and favorably known within its borders.

---

#### EUGENIO K. HAYES.

The name of Eugenio K. Hayes is inseparably interwoven with the industrial history of Galva and he was widely known as one of the foremost inventors of agricultural machinery. His ability placed him on a plane far above the majority of his fellows and yet in all of those qualities which make for pleasant social ties he was richly endowed and, therefore, enjoyed the warm friendship and kindly regard of all with whom he came in contact. Moreover he held to high ideals of life, believing in and supporting all those measures which work for the betterment of mankind at large.

A native of Stark county, Illinois, he was born May 21, 1848, and was the son of Harry and Harriet Hayes, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The progenitor of the Hayes family in this country was Nathaniel Hayes, who was one of the founders and one of the original grantors of Norwalk, Connecticut. He came from England or Ireland but was of Scotch lineage. Harry Hayes, the father of our subject, was born at Galway, New York, and became one of the pioneer residents of Stark county, Illinois, operating a woolen mill at La Fayette. He was always known by the title of Colonel Hayes and was one of the representative men of the community, prominent, active and influential in public affairs. On the 29th of January, 1829, he wedded Harriet Wright and they became parents of four children: Julia A., Mary E., Marga-

ret T. and Eugenio K. The father, who was born April 17, 1806, passed away June 11, 1888. His wife was born September 24, 1824.

Eugenio K. Hayes was indebted to the public-school system of Stark and Henry counties for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. He was a man of receptive mind and retentive memory and from the experiences of life learned many valuable lessons which were factors in his later success. In his youthful days he resided upon a farm near Saxon and, taking up agricultural pursuits when he attained his majority, he afterward purchased a farm near Kewanee, where he made his home for six years. In 1881 he removed to Kewanee and there entered into partnership with H. A. Perkins in the manufacture of shoveling boards. The firm maintained a brief existence and then Mr. Hayes purchased his partner's interest, remaining in the business alone in Kewanee until 1886 when he removed to Galva. He was one of the foremost inventors of agricultural machinery in the country for his practical experience on the farm had taught him the needs of that life and his inventive genius enabled him to meet these needs. He gave his attention almost wholly to the improvement of corn-raising machinery and took out over sixty patents, securing the first, a patent on a stock cutter, when he was twenty-two years of age. His most noted invention is the corn planter which bears his name. As the years went by he continued experiment and invention until he gave to the world many valuable devices. There was such a demand for his planters and pumps and the other products of his factory that in 1891 he organized a stock company which was capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars, a sum that was afterward increased to two hundred thousand dollars. With this increase of capital the facilities for manufacturing were enlarged until the plant of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company became one of the leading institutions of the kind in the country. The business is still conducted and is a monument to his memory as well as to the enterprise of the men who are now at its head. His work was of signal usefulness and value to the world at large and especially to the agricultural classes and he well merited the success which crowned his efforts. Not only did he possess inventive ingenuity but had the qualities of successful business management which are too rarely found in the inventor. He carefully formulated his plans, was determined in their execution and as the years passed enjoyed the rewards of earnest and persistent labor and sound and discriminating judgment.

On the 19th of January, 1871, Mr. Hayes was joined in wedlock to Miss Matilda J. Dack and unto them were born five sons: Ralph W. E., of Galva; A. Leslie, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Forrest S., Fred D. and Percy E., all of Galva. Mr. Hayes was devoted to the welfare of his family and was ever a stalwart champion of projects and movements for the benefit and betterment of the community. His life was actuated by high and honorable motives that found their rise in his Christian faith and belief. When about twenty years of age he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he remained a loyal adherent until called to his final rest. In the various branches of the church work he took deep and helpful interest and contributed generously of his means to its support. He was for several years a member of the official board and for nine years was superintendent of the Sunday school. He be-

lieved firmly in the early religious instruction of the young, recognized the wisdom of the Psalmist's utterance, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Mr. Hayes believed, too, in temperance and in all those agencies which work for upright, honorable manhood. He not only followed the strict temperance principles himself but endeavored to secure their adoption in the support which he gave to the prohibition party which he represented as a candidate for congress and for state treasurer. He took a very active part in the local campaigns against the saloon when the question of their license was before the public. He was a member of Camp No. 241, M. W. A., but was not particularly active in fraternal organizations, preferring to give his attention outside of business hours to his home, finding his greatest happiness at his own fireside in the midst of his family.

In the later years of his life he retired somewhat from the active management of the Hayes Pump & Planter Company, resigning from the presidency which he had filled for several years but accepting the office of vice president. He passed away July 25, 1903, and in his death Galva lost one of her most prominent and successful men who, however, never made his manufacturing interests the paramount issue of his life. He always had time for those higher, holier duties and fully recognized his obligations to his fellowmen. As an employer he was just; as a friend, kindly and considerate; and as a Christian, thoroughly loyal to the church in which he held his membership.

---

### JOHN WILLIS MORGAN.

John Willis Morgan, third son of John Norris and Mary (McKinney) Morgan, was born in Galva township, this county, December 6, 1877. The district school, the Galva high school, Knox College and Brown's Business College contributed to his education. He graduated from the high school in 1896, and entered Knox College the following September. At the end of his sophomore year, he decided to undertake the management of his father's land, and with this end in view, he registered in Brown's Business College at Galesburg for a course in practical business training.

On the 26th of December, 1899, he was married to Miss Ellen Frances Goold, daughter of Henry L. and Florence F. (Hurd) Goold. Both Mr. and Mrs. Goold were natives of Illinois and early settlers in Henry county. Henry L. Goold, born December 26, 1850, was the son of Sylvester and Helen (Macklin) Goold. Sylvester Goold, paternal grandfather of Mrs. John Willis Morgan, came to Illinois from Maryland, where he was born June 6, 1828. His wife, Helen Macklin, came with her parents to Illinois from Delaware, where she was born January 11, 1827. She and Sylvester Goold were married in Neponset, Illinois. Their children were as follows: Henry L., father of Mrs. John Willis Morgan, now a resident of California; Mary, wife of C. S. Wentworth, deceased, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Fred, deceased; Frank, of California; and William, deceased.

Mrs. Morgan's maternal grandfather, Theodore Frehlinghuysen Hurd, was born in Sparta, New Jersey, July 22, 1814. He died in Galva, Illinois, January 2, 1898. He came as a young man to Lafayette, Stark county, Illinois, where he bought land and opened a store. He was married October 11, 1840, to Catharine Driscoll, born in Goshen, Connecticut, July 24, 1824. She died in Galva, April 8, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Hurd had five children: Frances A., deceased; George Willis, of Abilene, Kansas; Albert Arthur of Topeka, Kansas, attorney for the Sante Fe Railway; Florence F., who became the wife of Henry L. Goold and the mother of Mrs. Morgan; and Charles L., deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Goold were married April 1, 1875, and went to Kewanee to live. Two sons and a daughter were born to them there, as follows: Ellen Frances, now Mrs. John Willis Morgan, was born July 27, 1876. Theodore F., born December 25, 1877, was married September 26, 1908, to Miss Jennie Smith of Ogalalla, Nebraska, where they live. There is one child, Almeda, born December 30, 1909. Harry W., was born March 28, 1880, and is now living in California. After the death of his first wife in Kewanee, March 21, 1881, Mr. Goold, Mrs. John Willis Morgan's father, was married to Miss Matilda Wentworth, of Kewanee, by whom he has two daughters: Eugenia, born February 19, 1889, and Harriet, born March 15, 1891.

Mr. and Mrs. John Willis Morgan went directly after their marriage to the farm two and one half miles north of Galva, where they have since lived. To them have been born four children, namely: Florence B., September 27, 1900; Norris G., December 4, 1901; Mary C., March 14, 1904; and John T., June 10, 1906.

In carrying out the family principle of good citizenship, Mr. Morgan holds school, township and church offices. He likewise follows the family traditions in his choice of religious denominations and political parties, worshipping as a Methodist and voting as a republican. In the management of the farms, too, he has adopted his father's plan of applying principles and methods that are business-like, scientific, and progressive.

John Willis Morgan's father was John Norris Morgan, born in Chardon, Ohio, July 5, 1830, the only son and youngest child of Gideon and Ruth (Norris) Morgan. Gideon Morgan was born in Massachusetts in 1788. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, going from Ohio, where he was then living. In 1817 he and Ruth Norris were married in Windsor, Ohio, and went to Chardon, Ohio, to live. Ruth Norris, John Norris Morgan's mother, was born in Tolland, Connecticut, January 24, 1790, and was the oldest child of John Norris, Jr., and Ruth Ladd. John Norris, Jr., John Norris Morgan's grandfather, was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1765. He was the son of John Norris, Sr., and Hopee Benson Norris, both of Plymouth. John Norris, Sr., was born in 1740. In 1768 he moved his family to Tolland, Connecticut, from which place John, Jr., went, as a mere lad, to serve in the Revolutionary army. He was in Washington's army during part of his time of service. After the war, he returned to Tolland, where he was married March 12, 1789, to Ruth Ladd. In 1812 he traded his land in Connecticut for a thousand acres of government land in New Connecticut, or the Western Reserve. He loaded his household effects upon a large wagon drawn by two yokes of oxen and a span of horses, and with his wife and

his eight children, started for the new home. The route was through New York state, and through Pennsylvania by way of Carlisle, Pittsburg and Beaver to Warren, Ohio, and thence to Windsor, Ohio. It was a six weeks' journey. John Norris was a local preacher of the Methodist church; and he held meetings and preached in Windsor and in the surrounding settlements. He was an excellent shot as well as a vigorous preacher and farmer. During the terrible winter of 1812, after General Hull surrendered Detroit, when provisions were so scarce in the Western Reserve his gun kept the family in venison. All but two of his eight children stayed in Ohio. The oldest, Ruth, (John Norris Morgan's mother,) who, as the record says, had a superior faculty for keeping and governing a school of large scholars, and who was actively interested in politics; and Ira, the youngest, clergyman and editor, came west in time to Illinois.

When John Norris Morgan was six years old, his parents, Gideon and Ruth (Norris) Morgan, moved to Illinois. They traveled partly by land and partly by water, enduring with pioneer hopefulness the slow river boat and the rough wagon trip through the wilderness. Jacksonville, Illinois, was the home at first. Later, the family moved to Exeter, Scott county. There were misfortunes here; Seymour, Gideon Morgan's son by a former marriage, was robbed and killed on his way to invest his father's money, and Gideon Morgan died in 1845. The next year found Mrs. Morgan with her son John and her two daughters in Peoria county. "There is a Presbyterian Missionary station, with a clergyman established, a new meeting-house building, and a postoffice. They call it Brunswick, Peoria county," explains Mrs. Morgan to her Ohio friends. The daughters, Juliana and Ann, taught school, and made dresses and hats for the neighbors between times. They were paid in produce. The son, John, found work, too, among the neighboring farmers, and was paid, as his sisters were paid, in produce. "If John had a team, we should get along very well," writes his mother. A year or two later, the family moved three miles to Farmington, Fulton county. The daughters married, and the tax receipts dating from these years, show that the son John was accumulating a little property.

In 1849, a party was made up in Henry, Illinois, to go to California. John Norris Morgan was living then with his sister, Mrs. P. H. Green, whose husband was in business there. All three joined the California party. A start was made but the travelers went no farther than Farmington. At that point there were various accidents, rain fell persistently, and the party broke up.

In 1851, John Morgan's mother and his sister, Mrs. McConnell, both died in Farmington. A year later, in 1852, he joined another party, with ox team and blanket and gun, said goodbye to his protesting sister, and started a second time for California. Word came back from him from St. Joseph, Fort Kearney, and other places on the long six months' journey. But mails were uncertain, and slow; and there were weeks together when no word came to the anxious sister. Meantime, the long train made its way along the old California trail. It crossed

the plains along the Platt, climbed the mountains, endured thirst and heat on the alkali deserts, watched for good water, and kept a sharp eye out for Indians. There was good hunting—jack-rabbits, prairie-dogs, herds of deer, and buffalo. Once in California, the comrades separated more or less, new partnerships were formed, and some of the men becoming discouraged or homesick or both, returned to the states, "God's country," as the letters call it, in less than a year. John Morgan was among those who stayed longer. Letters came from him from various places in California; from Mariposa, in the Yosemite valley region, from Sacramento, San Francisco, Eureka, Humboldt Bay, Stockton and the San Joaquin river. Other places are mentioned, some off from even a trail—the Klamath river country among the Digger Indians, Whiskey Flat, Sherlock's Creek, Long Gulch, McBride's Gulch, among others. The letters show that the miners were in the habit of going from one stage station to another from their camps in the hope that if there was no mail for them at one, there might be at another. "I went to the postoffice in Mariposa—nothing for me; then I started up the creek, rushed up that steep hill, then down to Agua Frio, and got nothing; from there I went, discouraged, up towards Horse Gulch. Then I took the trail over the hills to the Oak Spring House; I took dinner there, then I went to Nelson's camp where I received your letter and others," writes one homesick youth.

Luck varied; when it grew too discouraging, the partners packed blankets, picks and frying-pan, and left Whiskey Flat for Long Gulch or some other more hopeful creek. Sometimes they found a job in a mill or tried teaming for awhile. Often, such work paid better than mining. Some went back to the states the second year, discouraged; others tried Mexico; others went to Gadsden's Purchase, "rich in gold and Apaches," as one letter reads. John Morgan's luck was not great; but at various times, he sent home for investment, and invested in California, sums of money of fair size. Most of this, however, was lost in bank failures later.

Meantime, there were urgent calls home. His sister begged in every letter for his return; besides, there was talk of railroads. Surveys were made near some land owned by him; this Illinois country was growing fast. Finally, in 1855, he returned to Illinois, sailing from San Francisco by way of Panama and New York. On his return from California, he disposed of his land in Stark county and came almost immediately to Henry county, where he bought land in Burns. In 1856, he bought land in Galva township. Henceforth, to the end of his life, he was closely associated with the fortunes and development of Galva township. Most of the land hereabouts at that time was unbroken prairie. Wolves, deer, coyotes abounded. Hickory and Round Groves were worthy the name grove. Kewanee was quite in the woods. The traveler went about the country across the fields, as the bird flies, because there were few fences to limit him. Here and there were schoolhouses, which served also as churches and Sunday-school rooms. The spirit of education, too, was abroad among these Yankees and there were spelling schools, singing schools and debating societies, with the schoolhouse as the meeting place. The old Octagon schoolhouse was for years the center of the social, educational and religious life of the community.

John Norris Morgan believed church and school to be necessary to the proper growth of the country. When the first Methodist church was built in Galva,

he, among others, hauled lumber for it from Moline. When the time came for the erection of the second Methodist church, he gave to the work, as a member of the building committee, much time and thought. He was always glad to help other denominations, as the calls for assistance came. He was always a school officer, and he was actively interested in seeing that there was every chance for the growing youth that the conditions warranted. He served as supervisor from Galva for seventeen years. During the construction of the present courthouse, he was a member of the building committee. Whether he was actually farming or not, he always called himself a farmer, and he was actively interested in the farmer's welfare. He believed in education and organization for farmers. The grange movement had attractions for him and for years he was one of the foremost leaders in the farmers' institutes. Parties and denominations—organization, in general, he believed in and he was always identified with them in moderation. His political views were those of the republican party. Religiously, he was a Methodist; fraternally, he was a Mason. His death occurred in Galva, December 23, 1907.

Mary McKinney, wife of John Norris Morgan, survives him. She was born in Newton, New Jersey, April 16, 1841, the second daughter of John and Ann (Currant) McKinney. John McKinney was born in Newton, New Jersey, in 1805. His father and mother, William and Catharine (Youngs) McKinney, were also natives of New Jersey, as were their respective parents. Catharine Youngs' father, Daniel Youngs, Mary McKinney's great grandfather, served in the Revolutionary war. Ann Currant McKinney, Mary McKinney's mother, was born in 1814, the daughter of James and Mary Currant. The parents were natives of Newton, New Jersey, where the daughter's birth occurred. Mary McKinney came from New Jersey to Illinois in 1861, following her brother Newman, who was already here. She went first to Peoria; in 1862 she came to Henry county to join her brother who owned a farm north of Galva. Here she met John Norris Morgan, to whom she was married May 9, 1863.

Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Fannie E. and Jennie B. died in early womanhood, and Harold died in infancy. The five living are as follows: Blanche J., resides in Galva; Norris E., who lives in Center, Colorado, was married June 14, 1899, to Miss Mabel Windle, of Falls City, Nebraska; and they have one child, Dorothy, born March 17, 1905; Lorenzo S., medical missionary in Haichow, China, was married July 27, 1904, to Miss Ruth Bennett, M. D. There is one child, Ruth Pearce, born March 14, 1908; John Willis, is the subject of this sketch; Meryl S. is a civil engineer of Urbana, Illinois.

---

#### HARRY M. HURD.

Harry M. Hurd, who has been successfully engaged in the real estate business at Kewanee for the past twelve years, is numbered among the worthy native sons of this city, his birth having here occurred on the 9th of May, 1870. His father, Stephen M. Hurd, who was born in Connecticut, came to Kewanee early in the '60s and soon after his arrival opened a drug store on Tremont street,

where he conducted business for ten years. Shortly prior to his demise he sold out and the establishment is now carried on by Messrs. Hill & King. He died in Kewanee in 1877 at the age of forty years, passing away in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which he was a charter member. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Emily Brown, who was a daughter of O. W. Brown, a well known farmer residing a short distance east of Kewanee. They became the parents of four children, two daughters and two sons. Mrs. Elizabeth Watkinson, the surviving daughter, makes her home in Watsonville, California. Clara died at Kewanee in 1896. Both were widely known as most successful teachers of music and painting. Martin died in infancy. Amanda Hurd, an aunt of our subject, likewise taught music and painting in this city for many years.

Harry M. Hurd supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the public schools of his native city, by a course of study in Blackburn College of Carlinville, Illinois. On starting out to earn his own livelihood he entered the grocery store of R. W. Rounseville in whose service he remained for two years. In 1888 he secured a position in the dry goods establishment of C. A. Shilton, with whom he continued for ten years, proving a faithful and efficient employe. In 1898 he embarked in business on his own account as a real-estate dealer and has been very successful in this line of activity, his judgment as a valuator of property being unusually correct. In addition to his extensive property holdings in Kewanee he owns a farm of one hundred and eighty-two acres in Knox county, Illinois, has a quarter section of land in South Dakota and also owns a tract of land in Texas.

On the 25th of June, 1901, in Kewanee, Mr. Hurd was united in marriage to Miss Mertie Quinn, a daughter of Michael C. Quinn, who for many years was a prominent grocer and grain dealer in this city. They now have two children, Ruth Q. and Orville, who are seven and five years of age respectively.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Hurd has given his political allegiance to the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church of Kewanee. He has gained many friends in the city where his entire life has been spent and has won for himself favorable regard in business circles in recognition of his enterprise, his alert and energetic spirit and his successful accomplishment.

---

### JOHN H. O'BRYAN.

Among the men who have been most active in furthering the interests of Geneseo John H. O'Bryan deserves prominent mention. He is now the chief executive of the city, being called to this office after many years of faithful service in other public positions. He is at the same time closely associated with business affairs here, having for more than thirty years been identified with merchandising, while at the present time he is also known as a leader in financial circles, being the president of the Geneseo Savings Bank.

A native of Stamford, Connecticut, Mr. O'Bryan was born May 9, 1857, his parents being Nicholas and Margaret (Bradey) O'Bryan. As the names indi-

cate, he comes of Irish ancestry in both the paternal and maternal lines. His paternal grandfather was a native of the Emerald isle and became the founder of the family in Connecticut, where he followed the occupation of farming. His son, Nicholas O'Bryan, was born in the Charter Oak state and in early life learned the cooper's trade which he followed subsequent to his removal to Geneseo, Illinois, in 1858. He conducted a cooperage business here for a considerable period and met success in his undertakings, and as he prospered made extensive investment in land. He married Margaret Bradey, whose parents died in Ireland while the daughter in her childhood days came to America and was reared to womanhood in Stamford, Connecticut. By her marriage she became the mother of a son and daughter, the latter being Mrs. Jennie Weaver, the wife of Frank H. Weaver, of Golden City, Missouri. The death of Nicholas O'Bryan occurred in Geneseo, May 26, 1890, when he was sixty-nine years of age, and to his family he left a handsome competence as the result of his well directed toil in the years of his active business career. His benevolence was one of his salient characteristics, prompting his generous assistance to the poor and needy. His wife survives him and now lives in Golden City, Missouri. Both were members of the Catholic church and Mr. O'Bryan was active in community affairs, cooperating in many movements for the public good. For two terms he served as alderman of the first ward and gave his political allegiance to the democracy.

John H. O'Bryan was only a year old when brought by his parents to Geneseo and in the public schools of this city he pursued his studies, passing through the consecutive grades until he was graduated from the high school. In his youthful days, through the periods of vacation, he assisted his father in coopering and on attaining his majority, in 1878, he joined his father in the grocery business, the relation between them being maintained until three years prior to the father's death, when the son became sole owner. He has conducted the business to the present time and has one of the leading groceries of the city, enjoying a liberal patronage which has been won through honorable business methods, reasonable prices and earnest efforts to please his customers. He and his father erected the building which he now occupies and he likewise owns other real estate in the city. He was one of the committee of six who erected the armory and he was also the builder of the motor-cycle works. He figured prominently in financial circles, as well being now the president of the Geneseo Savings Bank and a director of the First National Bank. Throughout his life he has used his business opportunities to good advantage and his labors have been of signal benefit to the city, as well as a source of individual profit.

On the 29th of September, 1881, Mr. O'Bryan was united in marriage to Miss Catharine McCarthey, a daughter of Daniel and Mary McCarthey. Mrs. O'Bryan was born in Ottawa, Illinois, and in her early girlhood was brought by her parents to Geneseo, where she has since lived. By her marriage she has become the mother of two daughters, Florence and Gertrude. The parents and children are all communicants of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. O'Bryan is a stalwart democrat, recognized as one of the local leaders of the party. For four years he represented the third ward in the board of city aldermen, during which time he exercised his official prerogative in support of many

progressive public measures. He is also a member of the school board and of the hospital board and further political honors were conferred upon him in his election, on the 5th of April, 1909, to the office of mayor of Geneseo, so that he is now the chief executive of the city. His administration is marked by the same sterling characteristics which have been manifest throughout his business career and whether in office or out of it he is always active in promoting the city's welfare. He built the Geneseo waterworks and acted as chairman of the committee of management for four seasons, and at one time he was a member of the fire department. The subjective and objective forces in life are in him well balanced, making him cognizant of his own capabilities and powers, while at the same time he thoroughly understands his opportunities and his obligations. To make his native talents subserve the demands which conditions of society impose at the present time is the purpose of his life and by reason of the mature judgment which characterizes his efforts at all times he stands today as a splendid representative of the merchant and financier to whom business is but one phase of existence and does not exclude his active participation in and support of the other vital interests which go to make up human interests.

---

#### CHESTER ARTHUR BOTHWELL.

Among the younger citizens of Western township who are devoting their efforts to the cultivation of the soil is Chester Arthur Bothwell, a native of this township, whose birth occurred upon the farm which is still his home. He was born on the 11th of December, 1882, a son of Leonard R. and Florence Davenport (Lloyd) Bothwell, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

Spending the years of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, in the public schools C. A. Bothwell acquired a good knowledge of the common branches of English learning while during the periods of vacation he assisted in the work of the fields, in the broader school of experience learning lessons concerning the value of industry, diligence and perseverance. Upon reaching man's estate he wisely chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared, and has since engaged in agricultural pursuits on the home farm in connection with his father and brother. He makes his home on section 22, where he operates a portion of the old homestead, and through his well directed efforts has gained a place for himself among the representative and enterprising young agriculturists of the township. He has made a close study of agriculture, practices rotation of crops and is systematic, careful and progressive in the management of his affairs, elements which have proved salient characteristics in his present success.

On the 29th of November, 1905, in Moline, Illinois, Mr. Bothwell was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Bell. Her birth occurred in Western township, and in Henry county she was reared and educated, her parents being Elmer E. and Elizabeth (Purse) Bell. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bothwell has been born one child, Dorothy Bell, whose birth occurred in Moline on the 15th of January, 1907. Although Mr. Bothwell has ever been stalwart in his support of the principles

of the republican party, yet he has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his private business affairs. He and his wife are both members of the Baptist church, the teachings of which form the guiding influence of their lives. The young couple are well known in the township within whose borders Mr. Bothwell has spent his entire life, and the fact that those who esteem him most are those who have known him from boyhood is an indication that his life record has ever been in harmony with the principles of honorable and upright manhood.

---

### WILLIAM SHEPARD MOCROFT.

William Shepard Mocroft, after many years spent in hard work and thrifty economy, is now living in Kewanee although he still owns his fine farm of two hundred and fifty-five acres in Kewanee township. He was born in that township in March, 1855, a son of William and Jemima Mocroft. The father, who was a native of Derbyshire, England, born in 1820, died in 1856, in Kewanee township. His wife came to Kewanee township in 1843, but had lived in Wethersfield for some time after emigrating from Yorkshire, England, where she was born. William Mocroft and his wife met in Kewanee township and were here married. As a farmer he bore his part in the development of the county.

William S. Mocroft received a good country-school education and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. His whole life has been devoted to his farming interests, and he is justly proud of his property which represents his success in life from a material standpoint. Mr. Mocroft was married in 1880 to Bessie A. Warters, of Shannon, Kansas, who died February 3, 1900. They have one daughter, Caroline J., who has received an excellent education in the Kewanee high school and the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. She is a brilliant musician and teaches music in the Kewanee school. Her methods are such as commend her as a teacher to all who have the pleasure of knowing her.

Mr. Mocroft has seen many changes in farming operations since he began his work and has adopted many of them himself. He believes in the future of Henry county farming land and is interested in whatever promises to prove beneficial to the farmers of this locality.

# INDEX

Aby, C. B.	352	Boltenstern, M. A.	566
Allan, J. M.	698	Booth, M. T.	998
Allen, H. R.	1002	Bothwell, C. A.	1067
Allen, Robert	1001	Bothwell, E. M.	1005
Allgren, Olaf	462	Bothwell, L. R.	403
Allison, W. O.	581	Bradley, J. A.	178
Anderson, A. F.	920	Brinkhoff, Ed.	366
Anderson, C. H.	522	Broadbent, Harry	948
Anderson, G. P.	828	Brooks, C. H.	1003
Anderson, J. H.	736	Brown, Constant	305
Anderson, N. F.	901	Brown, D. S.	163
Anderson, S. A.	789	Brown, Frank H.	663
Anderson, William	347	Brown, Fred H.	500
Andrews, James	261	Brown, H. E.	604
Andrews, J. H.	443	Brown, J. M.	444
Andrews, R. L.	697	Brown, R. S.	102
Andrews, W. L.	249	Brown, T. S.	104
Antes, R. H.	221	Buck, G. W.	12
Appell, Andrew	664	Cady, A. B.	476
Armstrong, Kate E.	324	Cady, G. M.	480
Arnett, George	559	Cady, W. F.	481
Arnett, S. J.	218	Calkins, Anson	764
Arnett, Samuel, Sr.	590	Calkins, J. F.	767
Arnold, C. B.	496	Carlson, N. A.	499
Attwater, W. C.	723	Carson, H. G.	426
Atwell, Henry	871	Chaiser, J. P.	416
Atwood, W. H.	327	Charlet, William W.	672
Bach, Fred	545	Chase, C. E.	888
Bailey, H. W.	1048	Christner, W. S.	836
Bailey, R. E.	983	Clark, A. K.	102
Bailey, W. F.	268	Clark, J. F.	91
Baird, F. N.	800	Clark, William	565
Baird, Hugh	363	Colby, W. D.	530
Baker, B. F.	1015	Coldy, T. H.	307
Baker, E. E.	107	Cole, W. C.	930
Baldwin, J. B.	600	Cole, W. H.	241
Bannister, J. C.	141	Collins, J. S.	1055
Batten, J. R.	555	Combs, E. A.	890
Baum, Charles	858	Combs, H. A.	228
Becker, Theodore	297	Cone, Eliza A.	50
Beckstein, T. H.	240	Cosner, W. H.	708
Bergland, A. E.	561	Cosner, W. O.	425
Bergren, P. G.	797	Costello, J. M.	308
Bestor, Henry	937	Cowden, D. L.	156
Beuster, August	722	Cowden, T. C.	596
Blair, J. L.	262	Cowell, Harry	940
Black, R. W.	1034	Craig, R. H.	142
Blish, C. B.	647	Cramer, Ervin	189
Blish, C. C.	437	Crowe, D. L.	641
Blish, J. K.	62	Cummings, J. N.	229
Blish, M. B.	61	Cummings, J. T.	328
Blish, Sylvester	30	Curran, John	617
Blish, W. H.	77	Darin, Eleanor C.	750
Blomberg, J. L.	120	Darin, E. E.	678
Bloom, J. J.	974	Darin, J. J.	746
Pohman, Alfred	911	Davies, E. P.	413
Bollen, John	1024	Davis, F. E.	791
Bollen, J. W.	1025	Dawes, E. B.	210
Bolte, Henry	289		

Dean, E. S.	381	Golman, C. A.	728
Deem, B. L.	490	Good, E. S.	833
Demerath, N. J.	155	Good, F. E.	908
Deming, H. A.	334	Good, W. E.	846
Depoorter, Alphonsus	994	Goodrich, W. R.	608
Dewey, J. C.	970	Gould, N. B.	32
Dickey, A. J.	1018	Gould, W. E.	345
Dickey, D. T.	570	Graves, E. C.	232
Dickson, Samuel	987	Greene, F. H.	281
Dilenbeck, A. C.	854	Greenhow, B. F.	298
Dilenbeck, E. F.	834	Gresser, F. E.	990
Dirck, H. E.	726	Grier, H. L.	1032
Dirck, Michael	740	Griggs, P. M.	203
Duff, George	375	Guest, William	549
Dunbar, Orson	424	Gunther, Frank	385
Duncan, G. B.	867	Gunther, Frederick	383
Dunn, T. J.	716	Gunther, William	385
Durmann, John	433	Gustafson, J. E.	982
Dustin, G. W.	182	Gustafson, J. G.	992
		Gustafson, J. A.	1006
Edgerton, S. E.	578	Hadley, David	924
Edwards, F. E.	783	Hadley, J. J.	402
Edwards, F. H.	1031	Hadsall, Smith	574
Ellingsworth, J. S.	768	Hadsall, J. S.	472
Ellis, John	934	Hamilton, C. M.	739
Ensey, J. B.	971	Hamilton, John	130
Erdman, T. F.	453	Hamilton, W. C.	1030
Erickson, Oscar	815	Hammond, Joseph & J. C.	28
Ericson, Andrew	868	Hanlon, R. C.	903
Errett, A. W.	122	Hanna, J. R.	884
Evans, George	468	Hannon, T. M.	945
Evans, W. F.	449	Harbaugh, William	675
Ewan, W. C.	160	Harding, Ernest	278
Falk, C. G.	701	Harms, L. R.	356
Farnam, G. W.	989	Hartman, G. W.	1008
Fausset, Fred	348	Hawthorne, R. J.	609
Fell, W. A.	685	Henninger, C. A.	799
Ferguson, G. W.	627	Hay, F. M.	623
Ferguson, H. E.	916	Hayes, A. L.	198
Ferguson, R. T.	169	Hayes, E. K.	1058
Fesler, G. H.	706	Hayes, F. D.	427
Firch, David	862	Hayes, P. C.	357
Fischer, John	537	Hayes, R. W. E.	879
Fitch, E. E.	439	Haynes, F. S.	123
Ford, Dyer	59	Heaps, I. G.	517
Ford, J. D.	972	Heaps, W. T.	183
Fornander, C. J.	160	Hedlund, Peter	910
Francis, Frederick	542	Hedman, V. L.	506
Francis, S. F.	121	Hedin, H. N.	279
Francis, S. R.	547	Henry, William	897
Frank, Jacob	894	Herb, Frederick	429
Fuerst, A. A.	56	Herdien, Peter	396
Fuerst, F. W.	103	Hewlett, A. M.	258
Fuller, Baxter	184	Hill, Hugh	850
Fuller, Jehiel	813	Hill, J. D.	318
Funk, A. A.	1029	Hines, F. A.	918
Funk, George	668	Hinman, D. O.	528
		Hinman, R. H.	124
Gaessner, Oscar	434	Hohenboken, J. F.	687
Gamble, F. B.	743	Hohmann, W. D.	885
Gamble, J. N.	1028	Hoit, L. W.	485
Garland, C. A.	129	Hoit, O. W.	463
Garland, George, Sr.	483	Holke, F. A.	112
German, G. D.	645	Holzinger, W. H.	191
German, G. S.	680	Hoos, H. G.	712
Gerstner, Valentine	790	Horberg, J. A.	257
Gestrin, P. G.	752	Hornecker, E. H.	209
Glenn, O. F.	620	Hornecker, G. J.	37
Godfrey, William	280	Houghton, W. O.	313
Golden, Edward, Jr.	963		

Hulting, A. G. ....	753	Lincoln, H. W. ....	735
Hume, Stephen T. ....	174	Lindburg, J. A. ....	742
Humfreville, G. B. ....	595	Lindquist, Edward ....	660
Hunt, Edward ....	686	Lindstrum, Eric ....	238
Hunt, J. I. ....	192	Lindstrum, J. A. ....	276
Hurd, H. M. ....	1064	Linn, A. H. ....	161
Hurlbutt, F. A. ....	134	Little, R. A. ....	524
Hutchinson, G. W. ....	48	Long, Andrew ....	39
Hutchinson, Hugh ....	510	Lonser, Fred ....	300
Ingals, C. F. ....	20	Loomis, H. P. ....	412
Irvine, William ....	980	Lough, H. U. ....	823
Jacobson, G. J. ....	618	Lough, J. L. ....	865
Jacobson, Jacob ....	794	Loughin, J. W. ....	431
Jennings, Susan H. ....	67	Love, A. B. ....	947
Johnson, A. F. ....	484	Love, A. L. ....	926
Johnson, C. F. ....	378	Love, E. C. ....	908
Johnson, C. J. ....	148	Lowes, F. M. ....	993
Johnson, E. E. & E. B. ....	806	Lowry, N. H. ....	869
Johnson, F. G. ....	614	Lundell, Charles ....	197
Johnson, F. L. ....	696	Luther, C. F. ....	153
Johnson, J. W. ....	667	Luther, Martin ....	489
Johnson, John, Jr. ....	567	Lyman, Elias ....	42
Johnson, L. C. ....	1040	Lyman, W. H. ....	36
Johnson, O. W. ....	658	Lyon, A. M. ....	917
Johnson, P. A. ....	594	McAvoy, A. S. ....	944
Johnson, P. L. ....	583	McAvoy, Alexander ....	941
Johnsson, N. E. ....	899	McAvoy, F. J. ....	943
Johnston, T. H. ....	343	McBride, S. C. ....	657
Johnston, W. S. ....	299	McBroom, James ....	502
Jones, R. D. ....	808	McConnell, J. M. ....	97
Jones, R. G. ....	355	McConnell, T. H. ....	358
Jones, W. D. ....	79	McCullough, C. E. ....	52
Jordan, Byron ....	648	McDonald, L. H. ....	929
Keeler, P. B. ....	286	McGuire, W. J. ....	677
Keener, J. W. ....	981	McHenry, C. H. ....	57
Keleher, D. C. ....	904	McHenry, F. A. ....	400
Kerr, Amanda ....	818	McHenry, Virgil ....	580
Kerr, T. W. ....	818	McLaughlin, J. P. ....	586
Kewanee Coal & Mining Co. ....	695	McLeese, R. W. ....	202
Kewanee National Bank ....	324	McMaster, A. G. ....	810
Kiner, H. L. ....	773	McMaster, J. H. ....	132
King, Allen ....	856	McMeekin, William ....	181
Kirley, Bernard ....	337	McMullen, H. C. ....	243
Kroll, Jacob ....	372	Machesney, M. B. ....	744
Kuhl, H. O. ....	725	Machesney, M. H. ....	838
Ladd, C. K. ....	72	Magee, Charles ....	851
Ladd, F. P. ....	855	Magerkurth, A. H. ....	529
Ladd, J. H. ....	707	Magnuson, J. E. ....	1020
Lager, C. J. ....	274	Mallory, H. E. ....	194
Lager, C. W. ....	495	Mandle, John ....	195
Lamb, William, Sr. ....	952	Manguson, R. A. ....	69
Lambert, W. S. ....	557	Mannon, J. H. ....	922
Lamont, J. L. ....	758	Manthe, Ernest ....	835
Larson, O. H. ....	874	Martin, C. C. ....	346
Lauderbaugh, Emanuel ....	807	Mather, F. E. ....	196
Lavery, Daniel ....	51	Mattson, Olof ....	820
Lawson, J. F. ....	101	Maul, Adolph ....	351
Lay, F. M. ....	111	Mayhew, J. Y. ....	301
Lay, H. H. ....	488	Mayhew, Nathaniel ....	250
Lay, H. T. ....	464	Meloy, Mary A. ....	114
Leuis, A. J. ....	976	Messmore, G. E. ....	772
Lewis, E. W. ....	912	Messmore, G. W. ....	774
Lester, W. D. ....	757	Milar, Theodore ....	1026
Lieberknecht, Adam ....	10	Miller, A. E. ....	422
Liken, T. P. ....	151	Miller, C. C. ....	779
Lincoln, D. A. ....	754	Miller, G. E. ....	421
Lincoln, E. P. ....	745	Miller, I. C. ....	376
		Miller, O. H. ....	423
		Miller, William ....	876

Miner, Harrison	365	Quinn, M. C.	872
McCroft, Samuel	760	Quirk, Thomas	254
McCroft, W. S.	1068		
Moline, Olof	984	Ragan, C. S.	350
Moody, W. N.	244	Rastede, F. J.	978
Moore, John	214	Ray, E. J.	1057
Morgan, J. W.	1060	Record, A. J.	117
Morris, William	497	Record, E. J.	138
Morse, R. C.	487	Reher, George	921
Mount, C. W.	928	Reherd, W. R.	569
Mulligan, C. E.	212	Reiff, Matt.	732
Mulligan, J. H.	171	Richards, Frederick	162
Myers, John	1045	Richmond, E. A.	460
Myers, W. L.	252	Richmond, F. E.	461
		Richmond, Isaiah	454
Nash, M. M.	848	Richmond, J. F.	458
Nelson, H. W.	619	Richmond, J. W.	458
Neville, R. G.	718	Rieger, F. F.	247
Neville, W. A.	811	Riley, William	1017
Neystrom, S. P.	829	Ringle, John	92
Nickerson, O. P.	964	Ringle, William	320
Noonan, G. E.	842	Rivenburgh, G. H.	224
Nordgren, A. J.	231	Robb, S. E.	644
Nott, W. F.	923	Roberts, W. E.	907
Nowers, J. F.	958	Roberts, W. L.	200
		Rogers, John	325
Oberg, Louis	887	Romig, J. W.	784
O'Bryan, J. H.	1065	Root, John	133
O'Connor, E. C.	863	Root, V. J.	113
Offerle, A. S.	131	Rumler, Henry	996
Offerle, John	312	Ruxton, William	168
Offerle, R. G. F.	277	Ryan Brothers	741
Offerle, W. A.	762		
Ogden, John	386	Sadler, James	638
Okerstrom, J. W.	482	Samuelson, F. V.	900
Ole, H. W.	1036	Samuelson, G. C.	665
Oliver, William	1038	Samuelson, G. E.	1053
Oliver, T. F.	826	Samuelson, John	1051
Ollson, G. D.	98	Samuelson, P. A.	939
Olson, H. G.	443	Sandquist, J. E.	354
Olson, J. W.	392	Sanquist, O. E.	208
Olson, Mary M.	442	Savings Bank of Kewanee	696
Olson, V. J.	428	Schlunzen, Ernst	775
Orr, James	309	Schmoll, Fred, Sr.	891
Otley, Robert	387	Schroeder, C. F.	905
Ott, H. R.	230	Schroeder, J. H.	830
		Schroeder, L. A.	819
Painter, W. L.	886	Schultz, Julius	805
Palmer, G. D.	46	Sears, F. S.	550
Palmer, W. C.	733	Seaton, J. H.	109
Papenthien, J. F.	390	Sedgley, A. A.	470
Parrish, G. R.	24	Seefeld, Herman	632
Paul, M. K.	302	Seely, W. W.	406
Penwell, J. N.	338	Sellon, I. S.	628
Peterson, Albert	511	Shafer, S. W.	81
Peterson, C. E.	409	Sharp, Michael	467
Peterson, Henry	721	Sharp, S. J.	295
Peterson, J. H.	340	Shattuck, John	795
Peterson, Olof	731	Sherman, O. A.	825
Pettitt, J. M.	702	Simmons, H. F.	925
Phillips, A. L.	1022	Slauson, L. W.	802
Pierce, John H.	14	Smith, E. W.	778
Pierce, T. P.	563	Smith, F. L.	223
Pillsbury, H. A.	780	Smith, G. E.	637
Plummer, F. W.	1054	Smith, G. R.	362
Pobanz, G. A.	287	Smith, J. F.	144
Poppy, H. B.	737	Smith, J. H.	1044
Poppy, J. C.	738	Smith, J. H.	966
Pritchard, John	847	Smith, W. W.	864
Pyle, Robert	646	Snodgrass, F. A.	1019

Snow, I. C. ....	793	Ward, Thomas .....	717
Snyder, Daniel .....	761	Warner, L. C. ....	40
Snyder, LeRoy .....	727	Warner, M. K. ....	275
Soderberg, A. G. ....	831	Warner, O. R. ....	271
Soderburg, J. F. ....	507	Washburn, B. F. ....	622
Soderquist, John .....	492	Washburn, Edward .....	430
Sommers, B. E. ....	361	Washburn, George .....	881
Spencer, W. F. ....	158	Washburn, Henry .....	605
Spickler, A. B. ....	548	Weidlein, Andrew .....	538
Sprouse, Isaac .....	71	Weidlein, W. E. ....	659
Sprouse, M. O. ....	870	Weimer, A. W. ....	527
Stabler, F. J. ....	724	Weimer, William .....	330
Stach, Carl .....	311	Weimer, W. S. ....	1046
Stafford, B. I. ....	172	Weinrich, E. C. ....	329
Stafford, J. H. ....	242	Weinrich, F. W. ....	282
Stahl, Frederick .....	893	West, G. W. ....	164
Stahl, W. J. ....	170	Westerlund, Eric .....	636
Stamm, D. M. ....	508	Westerlund, J. E. ....	290
Stearns, H. C. ....	1014	Westerlund, J. N. ....	579
Stearns, J. W. ....	1013	Westerlund, P. E. ....	1016
Stevens, B. F. ....	962	White, E. F. ....	364
Stevens, W. T. ....	615	White, F. U. ....	633
Stewart, H. J. ....	501	White, J. H. ....	720
Stewart, R. R. ....	119	White, H. S. ....	291
Stewart, W. M. ....	643	White, Henry .....	292
St. Francis Hospital .....	661	White, R. S. ....	892
Stickney, W. C. ....	905	White, R. T. ....	610
Stickney, W. W. ....	589	White, W. G. ....	703
Stitt, W. L. ....	655	Whiting, E. S. ....	684
Stokes, T. R. ....	782	Wickstrom, W. L. ....	389
Stoneberg, P. J. ....	410	Widney, J. A. ....	704
Storey, Elijah .....	512	Weise, H. J. ....	694
Straley, John .....	965	Wiese, John .....	693
Sturm, W. H. ....	534	Wigant, Hiram H. ....	1007
Sturtz, C. E. ....	955	Wigant, S. G. ....	1021
Swanson, Andrew .....	466	Wilkinson, W. L. ....	128
Swanson, C. E. ....	465	Willard, J. F. ....	951
Swanson, E. L. ....	368	Williams, C. M. ....	625
Swanson, Swan .....	371	Williams, G. W. ....	99
Swiger, F. C. ....	157	Williams, T. C. ....	179
Talcott, G. A. ....	139	Willsie, H. M. ....	856
Taylor, C. B. ....	263	Wilson, C. C. ....	585
Taylor, P. H. ....	251	Wilson, I. N. ....	204
Taylor, R. E. ....	540	Wilson, W. H. ....	315
Taze, John M. ....	234	Windisch, George .....	715
Thomas, S. S. ....	336	Wine, David .....	374
Tibbetts, N. W. ....	853	Winroot, Eric .....	679
Tracy, J. S. ....	816	Winter, W. R. ....	1042
Tracy, W. R. ....	264	Wintz, P. J. ....	82
Troline, G. E. ....	956	Wirt, George G. ....	607
Turnbull, I. J. ....	1050	Withrow, Am. ....	414
Turner, C. M. ....	451	Withrow, Amariah .....	798
Union National Bank .....	461	Withrow, F. O. ....	837
Vance, H. J. ....	1047	Withrow, G. O. ....	776
Van Coutren, Julius .....	756	Withrow, I. W. ....	852
Van Zele, Leon .....	382	Withrow, J. W. ....	688
Verbeckmoes, Louis .....	1037	Withrow, W. H. ....	946
Vogler, G. H. ....	683	Wolever, C. F. ....	1012
Vogler, Peter .....	777	Wolever, R. W. ....	1010
Voss, W. C. ....	201	Wolf, W. G. ....	909
Waite, G. E. ....	5	Wolf, W. P. ....	681
Walker, Alexander .....	344	Woodbury, John .....	788
Walker, William .....	94	Wright, D. B. ....	222
Ward, A. D. ....	199	Yocum, Charles .....	960
Ward, Benjamin .....	213	Young, J. H. ....	598
Ward, C. T. ....	999	Young, James .....	938
		Zimmerman, F. C. ....	270

3465











